

## Return of all exiles demanded by April

AMMAN (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said on Sunday they would demand Israel allow all 1,600 Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories since 1967 to return by next April. They said the PLO expects about 200 expellees to return to their homes in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip by the end of November. "The PLO will submit a list of all the deportees to Israeli negotiators in Tabah and will demand that the return of the last of the deportees coincide with the withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier from Gaza and Jericho scheduled for April," said Marwan Barghout, a PLO official who was exiled in 1987. Under the Israeli-PLO accord signed in September, Israeli troops are to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and Jericho over a four-month period starting in December. A PLO official said Palestinian negotiators will also demand Israel agree to the phased release of all its 12,000 Palestinian prisoners by April. According to Palestinian figures, Israel has expelled 1,600 Palestinians since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war — 94 of them after a revolt against the occupation erupted in 1987. That does not include 400 expelled last December, who will all be home by the end of the year.

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## UAE stresses boycott adherence

ABU DHABI (AP) — The United Arab Emirates reminded business firms Sunday of the need for detailed certificates of origin for all imports, a formality designed to prevent Israeli products from filtering into the country. The local branch of the Arab Boycott of Israel Office, which is attached to the Ministry of Commerce and Economy, said in a circular that the certificates should identify the exporting country and company, list the commodities and provide the name and address of the manufacturing country and firm. On the strength of the information, imports would be given the ministry's approval and clearly marked: "This shipment is not banned from entering Arab ports..." The UAE circular apparently was aimed at countering any speculation that the Abu Dhabi government would unilaterally drop or ease the boycott. Publicly, the Gulf Cooperation Council alliance of Qatar, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain remains committed to the Arab League resolutions that enforced the boycott four decades ago. The ban not only includes Israeli products, but also boycotts Israeli firms and foreign companies that deal with the Jewish state. These include dozens of U.S. and other Western firms.

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## King sends cable to Balduh

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday congratulated Yemeni Vice-President Salem Ali Al Balduh on the escape of his two sons from an attack Saturday by Yemeni gunmen. The Yemeni vice-president's nephew was killed in the attack. In a cable he sent to Mr. Balduh Sunday, King Hussein expressed deep sorrow at the death of Mr. Balduh's nephew and expressed his heartfelt condolences.

## King meets outgoing Syrian ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received Syrian ambassador to Jordan Majid Abu Saleh, who called at the Royal Court to bid farewell to the King on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty in Jordan.

## Yemenis urge trial of killers

SANAA (R) — The funeral of the slain nephew of Yemen's vice-president took place peacefully Sunday, but thousands of marching students in Aden demanded that the killers be brought to justice. Witnesses said thousands of students marched through Aden, the stronghold of Vice-President Ali Salem Al Balduh, after the funeral of his nephew Kamel Al Hamed, a university student in his early 20s. They demanded that the killers, who have not been caught yet, be found and put on trial. Official sources said unidentified gunmen opened fire from a speeding car outside Hamed's home early on Friday. Two of Mr. Balduh's sons, Najid and Yanoof, escaped unhurt. Mr. Balduh's party, the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), has denounced the killing as fresh evidence of a plot to divide Yemen following a 1990 merger between the north and south.

## Aideed followers stage anti-U.N. rally

MOGADISHU (R) — Anti-U.N. protests rang out in Mogadishu Sunday and an aide to warlord Mohammed Farah Aided said a visiting U.S. envoy would be wasting his time if he did not talk peace directly with General Aided's party. About 2,000 followers of Gen. Aided's Somali National Alliance (SNA) staged the protest on the eve of a visit by envoy Robert Oakley, charged with helping refocus U.S. policy on a political settlement in Somalia and ending bloody confrontations. Protesters directed their anger at the United Nations and its Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, accused by Gen. Aided's camp of turning a U.N. peace mission into an intervention force.

## Tourabi calls meeting to settle disputes

KHARTOUM (AP) — The man who is the power behind Sudan's Islamic government said Sunday he was calling a conference of Arab and Muslim leaders to settle their various disputes — and show Sudan is not sponsoring "terrorism." Hassan Tourabi, a veteran Sudanese politician, told reporters the meeting in December would aim at ending disputes between warring factions within Muslim nations but would include leaders and thinkers from non-Islamic countries. He noted that he also hoped the meeting would change the minds of some countries that have accused his Khartoum-based popular Arab and Islamic conference of supporting international "terrorism." "We are sure they will see for themselves that there is no terrorism in the whole idea," he said.

## U.N. suspends Sarajevo airlift

SARAJEVO (R) — The United Nations temporarily suspended emergency aid flights to besieged Sarajevo Sunday after unidentified forces sprayed the airport runway with gunfire, wounding a French officer.

# 2 Palestinians killed amid settler rampage

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Two Palestinians died Sunday, one of them stabbed by Israeli settlers and the other shot by Israeli soldiers, as settlers continued a rampage in the occupied territories.

Settlers warned they would adopt the violent methods of a Palestinian group, which earlier claimed responsibility for the murder of a settler.

Settler spokesman Aaron Domh said on Israeli radio that if Jews were prevented from moving around the West Bank normally and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin compared the settlers to the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), "we shall start behaving like Hamas."

Mr. Rabin Saturday night criticised both Hamas and Israeli settlers hostile to peace between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Mr. Domh said settlers would block main roads in the West Bank again Monday and would "continue to throw stones at Palestinian cars, and set fire to them."

"The prime minister's state-

ments comparing us to Hamas tear at the heart of the Jewish nation," said Mr. Domh.

Dozens of settlers placed burning tyres across main roads early Sunday, outraged at the killing of 23-year-old Chaim Mizrahi by Palestinian militants, following his abduction Friday.

The barricades were removed a few hours later by the army with no resistance from the Jews, military officials said.

The armed wing of Hamas, Izzeddin Al Qassam, claimed responsibility for the attack Sunday, saying it "knifed the Jewish settler and burned his body."

The charred remains of Mizrahi, an egg merchant from the Beth El settlement in the Ramallah region, were found in the burned-out wreck of a Peugeot on Saturday near Al Bireh, where he was abducted.

Mr. Rabin said after violent demonstrations by settlers Saturday that "the opponents of peace on the Israeli side throw stones and burned cars to target Arabs."

"Our task is to beat the enemies and opponents of peace, because either of them

could pull down the peace process in which we have engaged by fanning the flames," the premier said.

An Israeli settler killed a Palestinian who allegedly stabbed him in the hand and back near the entrance to the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian reporters said Tamer Zeyara, 21, of Gaza City was shot during an argument with the Israeli over work.

Sunday's second killing was of a Palestinian who was shot by Israeli soldiers when the driver of the car he was travelling did not stop at a checkpoint, reports said.

Since the autonomy plan was signed, four Israeli civilians and two soldiers have been killed, reportedly by Islamic fundamentalists. Twelve Palestinians have also been killed during the same period.

The official leadership of the Jewish settlers announced that starting Monday, they would not allow Arab cars headed to work to travel on the West Bank roads from 4:30 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. (0230 GMT to 0500 GMT) "as their contribution to national security,"

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## 'Rabin to seek U.S. assurances'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will ask President Bill Clinton for U.S. security assurances next week in exchange for Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, an Israeli daily reported Sunday.

Mr. Rabin moved his scheduled visit to the United States up two weeks to accelerate the peace process with Syria, the report said.

A spokesman for Mr. Rabin would not confirm or deny the report in the mass-circulation Yedioth Ahronoth.

"We do not publicly discuss issues on the agenda between the prime minister and the president," spokesman Oded Ben-Ami said.

Mr. Ben-Ami confirmed that Mr. Rabin was scheduled to meet with Mr. Clinton in Washington on Nov. 12, although this was subject to change.

The report, which did not cite sources, said Mr. Rabin would ask Mr. Clinton to include Israel at the highest level of intelligence sharing, and to permit the sale of modern weapons systems to Israel.

Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to Washington and the leader of the bilateral talks with Syria, told the daily Haaretz newspaper it was Syrian President Hafez Al Assad who was delaying the talks.

"He has not changed his position until now, and that makes progress very difficult,"

Haaretz quoted Mr. Rabinovich as saying. "He wants to come to an arrangement on his terms, regarding substance and regarding how to achieve the arrangement."

President Assad said Saturday that Syrian-Israeli peace talks could eventually make progress but he did not say if Syria would take part in a next round of negotiations in Washington.

"We consider the peace process to be continuing. It has not broken down. When it breaks down it breaks down for good," he told reporters at Latakia airport, where he was saying goodbye to visiting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

## Jordan has 'no fear whatsoever' of cooperation with Israel after outstanding problems are resolved

WASHINGTON (R) — King Hussein has "no fear whatsoever" of cooperation with Israel, he said in an interview published Saturday in U.S. News World Report.

In the interview conducted this week, King Hussein told the magazine he saw tremendous opportunities growing out of greater cooperation with Israel following the Israel-Palestinian accord signed in Washington Sept. 13.

"In the past, one might say we've been the best of enemies. In the context of peace, I think the possibilities... are unbelievable for joining together to secure a better future for everyone," the magazine quoted him as saying.

King Hussein said some Jordanians were afraid of



forging links to Israel, but he disagreed.

"I have no fear whatsoever. This is a period of very rapid movement," he said, although he noted that many issues needed to be resolved

before any economic or other cooperation agreements could be signed.

He said it was also important to "build a solid foundation of trust" between Jordan and the Palestinians before

jumping into any confederation.

"Let's dispel all these misconceptions of our having any ambitions except to move ahead and secure the freedom for people to eventually decide what they want," he said.

"We need time. So much damage over the years can only be altered through real cooperation," King Hussein said he was confident the Palestinians would master negotiations and planning for the start of self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank city of Jericho in December.

But he stressed that it was also important that "they ensure their credibility, that they stick to the letter of the agreements, that the leadership represent all Palestinians."

## 2 French hostages rescued in Algeria

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Algerian security forces have freed two of three French consular staff kidnapped a week ago, Algerian Television announced Sunday.

The two were freed late Saturday after "a massive search operation" the government statement said.

A search was under way for the third person, Michele Thevenot, the wife of one of the two men freed, the television said.

The statement said Jean-Claude Thevenot and Alain Freissier were in "good health." The two flew out late Sunday on a French military plane.

The three employees of the French consulate here were kidnapped by suspected Islamic fundamentalists as they

## Peres: Israel does not want to control Palestinian economy

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel has no intention of controlling the economy of the occupied territories once Palestinian autonomy has gone into effect, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday.

Mr. Peres, who was addressing more than 2,000 businessmen at a conference, said Israel had not "given up territory in order to control the lives of the Palestinians."

"We have no intention of acting as bosses over their economy," he added.

The conference delegates included several hundred Palestinians and a delegation of about 10 Moroccan businessmen.

Mr. Peres proposed the creation of an "economic triangle" consisting of Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories, "because our economies are indivisible and we share the same riches in the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea."

The minister said a shared international airport could be built in Jordan near the Red Sea, along with a port used by Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians.

"The future of the region lies in raising its inhabitants' living standards, because poverty is a breeding ground for Muslim fundamentalism, and the Arab leaders know that that is more dangerous than Israel," Mr. Peres said.

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed an autonomy deal on Sept. 13 in Washington, and Jordan and Israel signed an agenda for peace the next day.

At Sunday's conference, Israel's Koor Industries conglomerate launched a joint venture with Spanish, Moroccan and Palestinian investors for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I announce Salam 2000, a project launched by Koor for investment in the territories. It

is a joint venture by Palestinians, Israelis and Europeans," chief executive officer Benjamin Gaon told the Jerusalem Business Conference 93.

Mr. Gaon said plans included projects for cement, food, transport, phones, construction and agriculture.

Mario Conde, president of the Spanish bank Banco Espanol de Credito-Banesto, said the bank was committing \$60 million. Banesto is Spain's third largest bank, with more than \$50 billion in deposits.

The Moroccan party is Omnium Nord Africain (ONA) and the Palestinian group of investors is headed by international businessman Jawid Gussain.

Mr. Gaon said the group was planning to list its shares in New York with the goal of raising another \$100 to \$150 million in capital. He said he hoped Arab-Americans would

(Continued from page 5)

# Karak, a cradle of politicians, turns tribal in run-up to polls

This is the second in a series of articles on candidates, their campaigns, strategies and chances for the Nov. 8 elections in individual constituencies:

From Lamis K. Andoni in Karak

AT DUSK, men start arriving at the big bedouin tents, framed with white hulbs, to express support for and solidarity with a prominent conservative politician from one of Karak's leading tribes.

The tribe elders and community leaders are seated on coloured mattresses and chairs in the centre of the tents, while other supporters line up rows of plastic chairs brought in for the occasion.

There is hardly any discussion of politics — the elders have absolute confidence in the "tribe's son" and their major concern is to help him secure a seat in the domed Parliament House in Amman.

Unlike four years ago, when an influential candidate of the same tribe lost to younger and more opposition-minded politicians, the prospects for the conservatives to dominate the scene seem much stronger this time around.

The majority of the 64 candidates contesting Karak's eight seats belongs to a traditionalist background, including a high number of former army officers who do not challenge government policies. Many of them, according to observers in Karak, nominated themselves or were "encouraged" by people of influence to run "in order to burn the leftist candidates."

There are at least six leftist candidates — including a representative of the Progressive

Socialist Party, an offshoot of the Jordanian Communist Party, Issa Mdanat, a candidate of the Arah Baathist Party, Abdul Wahab Talaeen, two independent pan-Arabists, Samir Hahashneh, who belongs to the Progressive Arab Party, but who is running independently, and Sultan Tarawneh, a former Baathist who joined opposition to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in 1973.

But the competition is tough on all sides; the Islamists have backed a candidate to weaken the chances of a senior former official, while the leftists and pan-Arah nationalists seem to be undercutting each other by failing to agree on a unified list.

Mr. Hahashneh, a writer and agriculture expert, is said to have strong chances since he has been the only leftist in Karak who has his tribe's full backing and is mainly depending on their votes to reach Parliament.

The introduction of the one-person, one-vote system has practically scuttled all efforts for alliances and the usual vote-harvesting that used to be practised among tribes and political groups.

The one-person, one-vote approach, as traditionalists and leftists agree, makes it difficult for any bloc to lead Karak in the elections, and hence weakens chances for the domination of one group, but at the same time pits all



groups against each other at the expense of common platforms — at least as the electoral map suggests in Karak.

Thus the campaigns in Karak are highly individualistic while political platforms are definitely the focal point of the candidates. The multi-coloured banners, in contrast to Amman's mostly white banners, of the line the narrow streets of the old city reflect a prevailing trend of an almost oppositional campaign in its slogans. Furthermore, the parties contesting the elections, with the exception of the Islamic Action Front, are not advertising their candidates as such but as individuals — in a sign of the irrelevance so far of any party appeal vis-a-vis tribal affiliations.

The "apolitical" manifestations of the campaigns, however, reflect a highly political contest in terms of the clash of interests between the traditionalists and the left of the centre, left and pan-Arabists, or in more general terms, between the conservative traditionalists and those who want to expand the system.

Judging by the highly mobilised and funded campaigns of the conservatives, tribalism, favouritism and family allegiances are replacing party affiliations, political platforms and debates.

If this continues to be the case, the upcoming elections could prove to be a reversal of a trend that reached its peak during the Gulf crisis, when younger and more politicised members of the clan seemed to have undercut the influence of the tribal chiefs who wanted to support Saudi Arabia and the war against Iraq.

There are no attempts by the tribal elders to defend or justify their positions in that period. In fact the atmosphere at the big tents adjacent to a modern villa and turquoise-domed mosque is tranquil, relaxed, and almost festive. The air of confidence seems to reflect a determined will by the conservatives and traditionalists to make a strong comeback to the helm of Karak leadership — in their view whether it is a ministerial post or parliamentary seat makes little difference — for leadership is their right place.

The scene contrasts sharply with more "politicised" and tense campaigns of pan-Arah and leftist independents, who feel intimidated and threatened by the wide-scale campaigns of their opponents.

They try to undercut their conservative opponents by "politicising" the election campaign and "altering" people against what they describe as "sharp setback in political freedoms" and "official interferences" by the local government in favour of conservative candidates.

"We are now living in an atmosphere of political suffocation," Dirgham Halassa,

an eloquent speaker, said in a speech he made to rally support for Mr. Mdanat, prior to the supreme court's decision to revoke the ban on political rallies in an obvious attempt to focus the campaign on highly political issues.

Mr. Halassa's comments reflect the frustrations of a cornered left, which now finds itself the target of organised campaigns by traditionalists who are exploiting the one-person, one-vote system to strip the campaign of any political substance.

Mr. Halassa was interrupted three times, once by a wedding parade and twice by shouting supporters of a former government official, who

drove around Mr. Mdanat's headquarters blowing the horns of their cars non-stop. But even veteran political party candidates concede that the country's first multi-party election campaigns, at least in Karak, are not politicised.

"Unlike the elections campaign in 1989, the political issues have been pushed back in favour of needs for direct services that people expect from the future deputy," Mr. Mdanat, who had spent 12 years in jail for his political beliefs as a communist, noted with disappointment.

Mr. Mdanat was the only representative of the Jordan Communist Party (JCP) in the former Parliament after winning 10,000 votes for one of the two Christian seats in Karak.

During the last campaign party members had to run as individuals since political parties had been banned. Consequently, at least in theory, political parties' candidates stand a better chance in the coming elections after the legalisation of political parties and lifting of martial law.

But on the ground, the situation is very different. Party candidates admit this election will be an uphill struggle.

An observer spending the day in Karak could immediately detect an atmosphere of apathy, or at least absence of enthusiasm, over the elections campaign.

The apparent political apathy contradicts the history of Karak, which has produced leading Jordanian politicians and activists in all political trends. The prevailing lack of interest attitude defies the reputation of Karak as a stronghold for leftist movements and pan-Arah nationalism.

Interviews with candidates, supporters and some residents, however, gradually help in unveiling the puzzle.

For the last four years, since the country's first elections, most of Karak residents did not feel involved in the political struggles that were raging in Parliament.

Many blame the Karak deputies for failing to keep in touch with their constituents and with the people's problems and demands.

"How come we only see them when they need our

(Continued on page 20)





Every street in Amman is bedecked with banners proclaiming the platforms of candidates in the Nov. 8 elections (Photo by Aynsley Floyd).

## Hustings get into high gear ahead of Nov. 8 elections

By Saad Hattar  
Agence France Presse

AMMAN — The campaign for Jordan's first multi-party election in almost four decades, set for Nov. 8, is in full swing and expected to cost more than \$50 million.

Dozens of huge tents have been erected on empty lots around the country to serve as bases for nearly 550 candidates, scattered over 20 constituencies, vying for the 80-seat Lower House of Parliament.

Under the tents, cups of Arabic coffee are passed from hand to hand, in keeping with tradition, amidst a heated political debate.

"The average expenses for candidates run in the region of \$7,500," said Samih Maaytah, spokesman for the 36 candidates of the Islamic Action Front, an offshoot of the powerful Muslim Brotherhood.

The costs include non-stop coffee hospitality, banners and the non-refundable JD 500 fee to run in the election.

Expenses for some candidates are expected to hit JD 70,000 to cover daily meals of mutton, one-page newspaper advertisements showing the smiling candidate and a budget to enlist campaign workers.

In some cases, Mr. Maaytah noted, candidates pay as much as JD 50 for a single vote. Former Deputy Fakhri Kassar, who is running in Amman, complained that candidates were paying as much as JD 100 for a single vote in some parts of the capital.

The government has stressed it would stay neutral. "We never intervene in favour or against any candidate," said one source, while noting that candidates are all barred time on government-owned television and radio stations.

Jamil Nimri, editor of Al-Ahali weekly who is running in Irbid, north of Amman, on a leftist party slate, said his expenses fell within the lower end, at below JD 5,000.

But independent candidate Awni Bastar has set a much higher ceiling. He is expected to spend almost JD 15,000 in

Jordan's first multi-party elections since 1956. The economic daily Al-Azwaq has estimated the overall expenses at some JD 35 million.

Sweet shops are working in top gear. Sheep prices have doubled since the launch of the election campaign amidst growing demand for mutton, the main ingredient of the popular dish called mansaf.

"We trade a goat for at least JD 100," said a contented butcher on the outskirts of Amman. Voters expect mansaf, a traditional Arab sweet.

The campaign has also contributed to a temporary easing of unemployment, officially estimated at 14 per cent. Many candidates have recruited young men to muster popular support.

"Over the past four months, I've received JD 100 a month, and a pledge to enroll my brother in a university," says Majed Abdul Aziz, who serves as a candidate's driver and bodyguard.

Israel recently released Salim Hussein Zurai, the longest-held prisoner from Mr. Arafat's Fateh movement, after 23 years in prison for attacks on Israeli soldiers.

But Mr. Rabin cancelled plans to release fundamentalist activists along with 617 other Palestinian prisoners freed Monday after two hijacking soldiers were killed in the Gaza Strip last Sunday by Hamas guerrillas disguised as religious Jews.

Mr. Arafat said opposition by Hamas to the peace accord was "part of our democracy" and he was unworried by it. "We are one family. We haven't any problem," he said.

The region's economic future was far more troubling, he said, noting that the PLO had commitments for only \$500 million of the \$1.7 billion it needed in the first year of self-rule.

"Israel and all the Arabs are in need of a Marshall plan for the whole area," he said, referring to the U.S. programme to foster economic recovery in Europe after World War II.

"Right now, we have to start from zero," he said. Mr. Arafat said he hoped to get increased help from the Gulf states but had recently also met with the American Jewish Congress about funding. Ten members of Israel's Likud opposition party were also coming to see him, he said.

"There is no turning back," he said. The Palestinian leader said he had "everything ready to go" for the December start of self-rule in Gaza and Jericho, although things were "going more slowly than scheduled."

Initially, he said the PLO would coordinate supervision of the border to Gaza and the bridges across the River Jordan.

Handing over supervision would take one to four months, but Mr. Arafat said he hoped it would be completed before his arrival in Jericho in January.

Mr. Arafat said he would likely travel to Jericho by land from Gaza or via the bridge from Jordan. He also said the next meeting of the Palestine National Council would take place in Jericho or Gaza, but gave no date for the meeting.

Swedes say they saw Kuwaitis in Iraq jail

KUWAIT (R) — Two Swedes recently freed from jail in Baghdad said Sunday two men who said they were Kuwaitis captured by Iraqis during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis had been among fellow inmates.

Iraq denied it holds any Kuwaitis taken captive during its seven-month occupation of the emirate in 1990-91.

Kuwait claims Iraq holds over 550 Kuwaitis arrested during the occupation.

## Arafat again urges Israel to release Hamas chief Yassin

WASHINGTON (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat again urged Israel to release the founder of the Muslim fundamentalist movement Hamas from prison in an interview published Saturday by U.S. News World Report.

In the interview, conducted this week at Mr. Arafat's headquarters in Tunis, the Palestinian leader said it was imperative to release Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, who is ill.

"It is not a bribe, it is a matter of principle," the magazine quoted him as saying. Mr. Arafat said he had repeatedly discussed the issue with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who has pledged to "go after the Hamas movement."

"I told him we are now in a new atmosphere. I am responsible for all Palestinians," he said.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, opposes the Palestinian self-rule deal Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed in Washington Sept. 13.

The two sides began negotiations this month on implementing the deal, under which Palestinians self-rule will begin in December in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho.

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## PLO leader wants to know why Nusseibeh wants leave

The Jerusalem Post

SARI NUSSEIBEH, one of the senior political figures in the territories, was summoned to Tunis on Wednesday, following his decision to leave for a year of academic research in the U.S., his wife confirmed yesterday.

Nusseibeh, 44, who headed the technical and political committees backing the now defunct local delegation to the peace talks, recently decided to accept a one-year fellowship in philosophy at the Woodrow Wilson Centre of Advanced Studies in Washington. The academic year begins next week.

A source close to PLO leader Yasser Arafat told the Jerusalem Post that "reliable sources in Tunis" told him that "Arafat offered Nusseibeh the opportunity to be in charge of economic affairs in the self-governing authority" if he stayed. The source speculated that Nusseibeh was maneuvering for a better political situation, because "Arafat said the technical committees would become null and void, leaving Nusseibeh frustrated."

Nusseibeh has always denied having political ambitions. He dismissed a newspaper report

last year which named him as future prime minister in a Palestinian cabinet. Despite his support for Arafat, he is known to think that his own political prestige, unlike that of delegation members, was independent of Arafat's goodwill, as he is considered one of the few members of the Palestinian elite with substantial grass roots support.

East Jerusalem sources close to Nusseibeh said that his decision was influenced by death threats and a belief that Arafat has no intention of holding free elections next year. They speculated that Nusseibeh is acting with political acumen.

"If something goes wrong — and he apparently thinks it will — he doesn't want to be associated with it," one source said. "If everything goes all right, he can always come back."

Lucy Nusseibeh told the Post her husband has wanted to go abroad for the past three years, and is doing so now because the political situation is more positive than it has ever been.

The question of his taking a sabbatical abroad was first raised during his four-month detention by the authorities in 1991. But he did not go then because "he did want to give

the impression of having an agreement" with the authorities, she said. She did not rule out the possibility that the PLO may give her husband a political role to play in Washington, but doubted that he would postpone his sabbatical for a political role here.

Hassan Abu Libdeh, the deputy head of the technical committees who will take over Nusseibeh's position, said the committees are not defunct. With the prospect of self-rule around the corner, their planning and advisory role has become more urgent than ever, he said.

## U.S. may have blown the whistle on anti-Saddam plot by dissidents

LONDON (AP) — The United States refused to support a plot by Iraqi dissidents to kill President Saddam Hussein and may have betrayed the coup plotters, the Sunday Times of London reported.

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agents held three days of secret talks with the Iraqis in London last November, the newspaper said, quoting Sa'ad Jabr, a London-based Iraqi dissident who arranged the meetings.

The coup plotters were Sunni Muslims, members of the minority sect which has long supported President Saddam, the Sunday Times said.

Most were from the Iraqi leader's hometown of Tikrit or from Mosul, the northern city whose men are most prominent in the Iraqi officer corps.

The Sunday Times said the Iraqi dissidents wanted American planes to bomb two military camps to create chaos.

Senior officers at the camps, the Al Rasheed, 15 kilometres south of Baghdad, and Al Taji, about 50 kilometres to the north, would then seize power, it said.

The plot was already far advanced when the Americans were called in, and the talks went into "extensive details,"

the newspaper said. As a sign of good faith, the Iraqis named 10 officers involved in the plot, it said. The Americans said they wanted to check how well-placed the plotters were.

After months of silence, the Clinton administration said it would not back the plot because turmoil in Iraq could endanger the Middle East peace process, the Sunday Times said.

Jabr passed the message on to the plotters and assumed they would scrap their plans. Instead, they decided to go ahead with the assassination attempt in Baghdad on July 17, when President Saddam attended a parade marking the anniversary of his Baath Party's 1968 seizure of power.

On July 15, Colonel Safwan Al Ghurairi, commander of a tank battalion of the elite Republican Guard, was summoned to "review plans" for the parade, and was arrested, the newspaper said. Hundreds of other officers and retired officers were imprisoned and interrogated over the next few days, it said.

Jabr was quoted as saying he suspected somebody connected with the Americans bet-

rayed the operation because all of the 10 officers on the list given to the CIA were arrested.

The newspaper said most of the coup plotters "were probably executed."

The schedule and location of the parade were changed in case any conspirators had escaped.

Those involved in the London talks included Jassem Moukhlis, an influential lawyer from Tikrit, and Sheikh Taleb Al Suheil, an Iraqi dissident living in Jordan.

It said unnamed American officials confirmed the talks had taken place, but gave no further details.

There have been reports of several abortive coup plots or assassination attempts against President Saddam in recent weeks, although none have been independently confirmed.

Reports in October also said President Saddam's security forces had rounded up hundreds of members of his Tikrit clan and other prominent Sunni Muslims in the biggest purge since he crushed rebellions by Shiite Muslims and Kurdish separatists right after the 1991 Gulf war.

## Indonesia wants to sell more helicopters to Iran

BANDUNG, Indonesia (R) — Indonesia's state-run IPTN hopes to sell 14 French-designed civilian Super Puma helicopters to Iran for \$10 to \$12 million each, sources close to the company say.

"It has already been agreed to sell seven non-military Super Pumas to Iran and after that we plan to sell seven more," one source said at IPTN's assembly plant near Bandung, west Java.

The sources, close to IPTN President-Director Jusuf Habibie, said none of the helicopters had been delivered because of payment problems. They gave no details.

Iran and Indonesia, both Muslim-dominated countries, who is also Indonesia's research and technology minister, told reporters at Bandung, 180 kilometres from Jakarta.

Inside one of IPTN's assembly plants, at least five Super Pumas with space for 15 civilians and crew appeared completed.

In other areas, completed aircraft and ordinary Pumas were at the end of assembly lines where the workload appeared small.

The sources close to Mr. Habibie said Iran told IPTN it wanted the helicopters for oil industry operations.

"Some people think they will be used for military purposes," Mr. Habibie said.

Foreign operators, ranging from Thailand and Malaysia to Gabon and Chile, have 56 IPTN-produced aircraft. Only one Super Puma is listed as having gone overseas.

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## For Israelis, peace means good life and better earnings

By Dan Perry  
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — Danny Segal went to America three years ago in search of higher wages and to escape army reserve duty in the Gaza Strip. After signing of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace accord, he decided to come home.

Mr. Segal found a country transformed. "Everyone is talking about raising easy money through the stock market or from foreign or local investors," said the 31-year-old computer programmer.

Among the enticements, Mr. Segal said, are the economic prospects of an Israel at peace and burgeoning interest from potential employers offering salaries similar to what he earned in the United States

— up to \$3,000 a month. "All you need to do is look at the number of start-up companies," he said.

Mr. Segal's homecoming this month seemed to bear out the predictions of those who have argued that a painful compromise with the PLO would bring war-weary Israelis hard cash and a good life.

Israelis "increasingly just want to make money, stay with the kids, and not go to reserve army duty," said Robert Rosenberg, a novelist and social commentator in Tel Aviv.

Right-wing opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu accuses the government of spreading unfounded euphoria about the economic windfalls of peace.

With Foreign Minister Shimon Peres talking about a Middle East common market, joint Israeli-Arab airports and

the region turning green via Israeli irrigation techniques, some experts believe Mr. Netanyahu may have a point.

Predictions that Israel will become "the Hong Kong of the Middle East" and a tourist centre are dreams, said Eli Saguy, a Tel Aviv University economist.

Mr. Saguy believes Israeli access to Arab markets will not have nearly the impact some expect. Israel can generate much greater revenue from high-tech exports to Western markets than by selling vegetables to Arab states, he said.

But the government is right in linking peace and prosperity. "We foresee a very good decade of some seven per cent annual growth. This is unequivocally conditioned on the peace process continuing and advancing in the right direction," he said. "Without it,

we're in bad shape."

With a reduction in military expenditures, resources will be freed for education and infrastructure, the kinds of investments that will raise living standards, he said.

A study conducted by Economic Models, a Tel Aviv thinktank, also foresees huge growth in foreign investment, with American companies becoming an integral part of the economy.

Japan and European countries, freed of the Arab boycott of Israel, would also provide a boost, the study said.

Israel and the PLO signed the accord for Palestinian autonomy on Sept. 13. But Mr. Saguy said Israel's road to prosperity began in the mid-1980s and accelerated with the arrival of hundreds of thousands of highly skilled immigrants from the former

Soviet Union.

Israel is now a relatively prosperous country, with an export-driven, high-tech economy generating a standard of living already higher than parts of the European Community.

Industrial production and exports are both up some 25 per cent in the past two years, according to official statistics.

Among other signs of the times: — The Tel Aviv stock exchange, one of the most profitable in the world in 1992, has gone up 15 per cent since the peace accord was announced.

— American chains such as Tower Records, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, the Gap and Hard Rock cafe are becoming local fixtures.

— Top pop acts such as Michael Jackson, Madonna, Bob Dylan and Elton John have all played Israel recently.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel. 773111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Les Aventuriers de L'Espace
18:00	Omnisciences
18:30	Maguy
19:00	News in French
19:15	The weekly sport magazine
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Delta
21:10	The House of Eliott
22:00	News in English
22:30	The Chancer
PRAYER TIMES	
04:29	Fajr
05:47	(Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:19	Dhuhr
14:23	'Asr
16:51	Maghrib
18:09	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh, Tel. 810740	
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church, Tel. 634990	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terrence Church Tel. 622366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Assyrian International Church Tel. 625256	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328	
German-speaking Evangelical Church Tel. 684105	
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932	
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be partly cloudy to cloudy as temperatures will drop. Rain will fall and winds will be westerly active. In Aqaba, it will be dusty, partly cloudy, and thunderous rain will fall. Winds will be southerly active and seas rough.	
Min./Max. temp.	
Amman 15 / 20	
Aqaba 19 / 28	
Dahab 12 / 23	
Jordan Valley 18 / 26	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 33 Humidity readings: Amman 34 per cent, Aqaba 45 per cent.	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Hisham Khar'an	790276
Dr. Walid Al Masri	675485
Dr. Sa'ad Tawfik	788285
Dr. Arafat Al Ashhab	602507
Pine pharmacy	843402
Ferdows pharmacy	778336
Al Azema pharmacy	637055
Natash pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shmeisat pharmacy	637660
Natash pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	647632
IRBID:	
Dr. Ali Al Shugairi	246140
Alquds pharmacy	(—)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Rami Atallah	984424
Khalifah pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	
Rescue	
Civil Defence Emergency	630341
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	603900
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	891467
Amman Municipality	787111





**NAMING A PRINCE:** His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Sunday attend a special ceremony to celebrate the naming of His Royal Highness Prince Omar Ben Faisal, who was born Friday Oct. 22.

Prince Omar was named by his grandfather King Hussein. He is the second child of Their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal and Princess Alia. Their first child, Princess Aya, is three years old (Petra photo)

## Seminar aims to create opportunities in resources development sectors

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar entitled "Jordan Infrastructure Development" (JID) will be held at the Forte Grand Hotel today (Monday) in order to create new opportunities for British companies to contribute to the development of three key sectors in Jordan — water, energy and mineral resources, according to a statement.

The seminar aims to encourage a mutually beneficial partnership between British companies and Jordanian government organisations and private companies, the statement said.

The one-day briefing aims to:

- give firms a highly fo-

cused and intensive briefing on the three sectors,

- enable U.K. companies to meet Jordanian counterparts and senior officials in the formal sessions and over lunch and an evening reception, and
- provide advice on follow-up.

The JID seminar is organised by a group led by the British embassy in Amman and comprising two Jordanian companies (Amin Kawa and Sons Company, and the Arab Potash Company) and four British companies already in Jordan (British Bank of the Middle East, Merz and McLellan, G. Wimpey International

and Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick).

According to the statement, the seminar will be attended by more than 40 British participants representing 27 British companies, in addition to the Department of Trade and Industry in London and the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce.

The ministries of Planning, Water and Irrigation and Energy and Mineral Resources will give presentations on current and future infrastructure development plans.

Other government organisations and around 30 Jordanian companies will participate in the seminar.

## Jordan to receive DM 11m in German technical aid

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to receive 11 million German marks (DM) in technical aid from Germany for the Ministry of Agriculture and the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ), in accordance with the terms of three memoranda signed in Amman Sunday.

The first memorandum provides DM 3 million to benefit the Agricultural Extension Service and a project now being implemented in cooperation with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) to improve the quality of products.

The assistance to be provided will be in the form of experts, computers and other equipment, as well as specially equipped vehicles for agricultural projects.

The second memorandum, worth DM 5.5 million, provides technical assistance for WAJ operations and the maintenance of water net-

works to reduce water leakage from pipes. This project is being executed by WAJ in cooperation with GTZ.

GTZ will provide training to Jordanian personnel in operating and maintaining water equipment and networks, as well as expertise in managing water networks, land surveys and the finances of these activities.

Under the third memorandum, DM 2.5 million will be provided in consultancy services to WAJ to help it conduct studies on underground water resources. GTZ will supply the experts, vehicles and computers among other equipment needed for the project, which is being executed in cooperation with the Natural Resources Authority (NRA).

Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz and German Ambassador to Jordan Heinrich Reiners signed the memoranda at the Ministry of Planning.



Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz (second from right) and German Ambassador to Jordan Heinrich Reiners (centre) Sunday sign three memoranda whereby Germany will provide Jordan with DM 11 million worth of technical aid (Petra photo)

## German expert receives medal for services

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has honoured a German afforestation expert for his services to the Ministry of Agriculture and its various departments and for directing a project for the development of the Zarqa River Basin between 1986 and 1989.

Minister of Agriculture Marwan Kamal presented Laslo Pancel Al Kawkab Medal of the Third Order in recognition of his work.

Dr. Pancel has worked closely with a Jordanian team of experts in developing forest lands and establishing a centre for cultivating tree saplings and seeds, in projects financed by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). From his experience in Jordan, Dr. Pancel wrote a book entitled "The Management of Jordanian Forests".

Keen on protecting wildlife

reserves, Dr. Pancel also conducted a study on the development of Dana Reserve in the south.

His work with the Ministry of Agriculture included supervising personnel training in forest development and conducting several activities aimed at ensuring the protection of the environment and the preservation of forest trees.

Born in former Yugoslavia in 1952, Dr. Pancel went to Germany where he obtained German citizenship and his doctorate from the University of Hamburg.

Before coming to Jordan, Dr. Pancel worked for the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the European Community and GTZ.



Minister of Agriculture Marwan Kamal (left) presents Laslo Pancel with Al Kawkab Medal of the Third Order for his services to the ministry

## Elections '93

### EC grant to help finance cost of elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Community (EC) delegation in Jordan Sunday granted the Kingdom JD550,000 to help finance the cost of conducting the 1993 general elections.

Interior Minister Salameh Hammad, who signed the grant agreement, voiced Jordan's appreciation to the EC and thanked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its efforts in securing the assistance.

EC representative Jean Pierre Pierard, who signed the agreement for the EC, said the grant was part of the community's contribution to supporting the Kingdom's democratic march and in appreciation of the country's drive towards safeguarding human rights.

All kinds of assistance provided by the EC to Jordan has been well used and it is hoped that the Ministry of Interior would benefit from the grant in financing the election process, said Mr. Pierard, in a brief statement to Jordan Television.

### Candidate withdraws from race

Karak Governor Khalaf Mahasneh Sunday announced that Riyadh Hurub, a candidate in the general elections, has withdrawn from the race.

Mr. Mahasneh said that two other candidates, Shaher Rawashdeh and Ali Tarawneh withdrew earlier. He said 63 candidates remain in the contest for nine seats in the Karak constituency. Mr. Mahasneh did not disclose the reason for the withdrawals.

## JTA sells \$1m worth of products in Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — Benefiting from the Sudanese-Jordanian Trade Protocol of 1992 and other agreements on barter trade, the Jordan Trade Association (JTA) has sold \$1 million worth of Jordanian products in Sudanese markets in one year, according to JTA Executive Director Halim Abu Rahmeh.

One year ago JTA opened an office in Khartoum to promote the sale of Jordanian products in Sudan.

He said JTA plans to expand to other African countries such as Eritrea and Ethiopia through the JTA Khartoum

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Majall meets with Jordan's new envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday called on the newly-appointed Jordanian ambassadors to Syria, Qatar, Yemen, Morocco, Belgium, China, Germany, Australia, Greece and Australia to exert every possible effort in developing bilateral relations with Arab and friendly countries. At a meeting with the new envoys held at the Prime Minister, Dr. Majali said ambassadors have an important role to play in explaining Jordan's positions on political, economic, Arab and international issues. The Prime Minister called for activating the role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to implement His Majesty King Hussein's directives contained in his letter of designation to the government. Dr. Majali emphasised the importance of enhancing relations between Jordanian communities abroad and the homeland. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Sataan Al Hassan. Also Sunday Dr. Majali called at the Department of the Chief Islamic Justice, where he attended part of the weekly meeting of the department's senior officials.

### Terminal 1 reopens at QAIA

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) Monday resumes its flights from Terminal 1 at Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA). The terminal had been closed for renovations for more than two months.

### Investments register JD 163m in 1992

AMMAN (Petra) — The total investment volume in the country in 1992 amounted to JD 163 million, up from JD 94 million the year before. The number of companies investing in the economic sector also rose from 4,145 companies in 1991 to 4,556 in 1992.

### Team to attend vocational training seminar in Italy

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will be one of a group of Arab countries taking part in a vocational training seminar to open in Turin, Italy on Nov. 2. The head of the participating team, Ali Nasrallah, said the six-week seminar will tackle planning, organisation and supervision of vocational training programmes and will present a working paper on Jordan's experience in vocational training.

### Jordan to take part in housing meeting in Cairo

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the 11th meeting of the Arab League Council of Arab Ministers of Housing and Construction due to open in Cairo on Nov. 12, according to an announcement here Tuesday. Topics on the agenda of the three-day parley include preparations for an Arab regional conference to chart strategies on housing in the Arab World and a report on the housing situation in Lebanon in the aftermath of wars and civil strife in the country, according to the announcement. Activities connected with the U.N. Centre for Population Settlements will also be taken up at the meeting. The Jordanian delegation to the Cairo meeting will be led by Minister of Public Works and Housing Khalaf Hawari.

### 2 groups of tour operators due to arrive

AMMAN (Petra) — A Canadian tour operator group will pay a week-long visit to Jordan beginning Nov. 9, at the invitation of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. The group, which will be accompanied by several journalists and representatives of Canadian radio and television companies will discuss with ministry officials and tourism sector representatives scopes of cooperation between both countries. Another tour operators group from Qatar will spend a week in Jordan, starting Nov. 3, also at the invitation of the ministry, which is working with Royal Jordanian to promote tourism to the Kingdom.

### Rapporteur discusses Al Amal Centre progress

AMMAN (Petra) — The first stage of Al Amal Cancer Centre, located near the Jordan University Hospital, will become operational in April 1994 and every effort is being exerted to meet this deadline, said the task force rapporteur Abdullah Al Khatib Sunday. By April next year, at least JD16.5 million would have been spent on constructing and furnishing the centre which will have 100 beds and special wings for children, along with various sections for the treatment of cancer, said Dr. Khatib at a press conference called to report on the progress of the centre. He said that the construction work on the main building has been completed, mechanical and electrical works are underway and together with the furnishings, all structural works are expected to be completed in the first quarter of 1994. Work on the 23,720 square metre centre started in 1989 with support from the government and donations from the community, said Dr. Khatib.

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Police are searching for a suspect or suspects who reportedly stole two batteries and a solar cell from the seismograph at the Shobak Seismological Station, a police report said.

An employee of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) told police that when he went to check the station on Saturday, he discovered that the door of the station had been broken and equipment was missing from the seismograph (an instrument that records the

force and direction of earthquakes).

An official at the NRA at the Ministry of Energy said this was not the first time a seismological station was burglarised. The official, who preferred anonymity, explained that the batteries and solar cells can be used to operate televisions and automobiles.

"This is the third time one of our 40 seismological stations has been burglarised," the official said.

What is unfortunate, he added, is that the Shobak station will not function without the missing equipment, and 10 seismological stations in the

south will be paralysed because the Shobak station acts as a relay post which transmits and receives the waves from the other 10 stations.

"It is a waste of government money, and it will cost the ministry approximately JD 1,500 to replace the stolen equipment," the official said.

"It will take some time before the Shobak station will operate because such equipment is not available in the local market and must be imported from foreign companies," he added.

The official told the Jordan Times that he hoped that these

burglaries would stop because, he said, it is a threat to the people. He explained that if an earthquake is about to occur in the south, the seismographs would record it, but would not be able to transmit the signals.

The official was concerned that people would blame the Jordan Seismological Observatory for not warning them ahead of time.

He added that it is difficult to place a guard at every station because it is costly, and the stations are located in the desert, where most people would be reluctant to be posted.

## Contemporary Italy to go on display in Amman



Italian Ambassador to Jordan Romualdo Bettini Sunday addresses a press conference to announce an Italian cultural week

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday will open the Italian Cultural and Artistic Week, "Piazza Italia," at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel in Amman, Italian Ambassador Romualdo Bettini announced Sunday.

At a press conference, the ambassador said the activities, which will last until Nov. 7, will include social, cultural and artistic functions reflecting Italy's contemporary lifestyle.

The event will include a fashion show featuring the latest designs of six famous couturiers, culinary delights, art exhibitions and piano and opera recitals, said Mr. Bettini.

Organised by the Italian embassy in cooperation with Jordanian and Italian institutions, the event aims to enhance the excellent ties between Jordan and Italy, Mr. Bettini added.

He said bilateral trade, industrial and cultural relations would most likely be strengthened as a result of "Piazza Italia," and the public will have an opportunity to experience a sample of Italian progress.

He said that part of the proceeds of the cultural week will be offered to the National Music Conservatory/Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by artist Sa'di Al Ka'bi at Alia Art Gallery (9:30-13:30 and 1500-1800).
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Al Jaloo at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Views" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Bani Hamida fall exhibition: "Autumn Leaves" at the Jordan Contractors Association Building (near the American Embassy in Abdoun) 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

### FILMS

- ★ Film in French entitled "Fontaines" at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.
- ★ Film entitled "The King and I" at the American Center at 3:00 p.m. (133 minutes).
- ★ Film entitled "The Seven Samurai" at the American Center at 6:00 p.m. (207 minutes; in Japanese with English subtitles).

### CORRECTION

In an Oct. 30 report, headlined "Peace requires specific steps for progress — Anani," the Jordan Times incorrectly attributed the organisation of the open debate, in which Dr. Anani spoke, to the Association of Arab University Graduates in Amman. It was in fact the Jordanian Society for Graduates of U.S. Universities which organised the debate. The Jordan Times apologises for the error.

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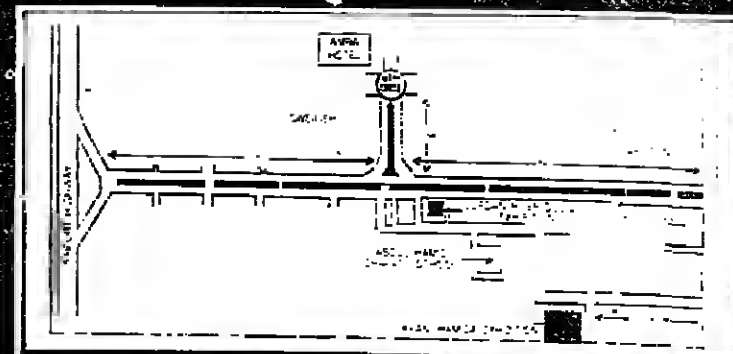
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## Signpost on difficult path

TWO DAYS after the Higher Court of Justice reversed a minister of interior decision to ban public rallies, the election campaign seems to have gathered extra momentum and picked up more speed. The ruling has been received with enthusiasm by candidates and political leaders alike, as it has put an end to two weeks of acrimony and accusations against the government that it is interfering in the elections. But, above all, the development highlighted the important role the judiciary can and should play in Jordan's democratisation process.

Two years ago when the speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Abdul Latif Arabiyat, nearly took residents of Tafleh to court for allegedly slandering the House, many politicians, writers and columnists pleaded with the speaker to drop the case, which he did. That was not the only case that was blocked by well-intentioned people, who true to tradition would always want to keep the courts out of disputes and to solve them in the more familiar tribal manner. So far and as far as the democratisation process is concerned the judiciary has not been allowed to assume its role as the final arbiter, and the most effective, in any disputes, especially those involving the government and the legislature. It was therefore difficult to understand why the Islamic Action Front, which was the main party pressing for lifting of the ban on public rallies, had waited for two weeks before going to the court thus losing much valuable time. The judiciary's role extends even beyond the role of a final arbiter. While the Higher Court of Justice is not a constitutional court, something which is a must in a democratic system, it can still interpret laws, set precedents and point to loopholes in existing legislation. And that is what it did in the case at hand.

It is essential for the success of our democratisation process that we, institutions and individuals, should resort more often than we do already to the judiciary to seek solutions to conflicts of interest and clarification of laws and regulations. The Jordanian judiciary system has on many occasions proven its integrity as the balancing branch of government. We should be proud of it and should not hesitate to use it when the right way is difficult to find in our democratic march.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily Sunday expressed the view that the Israelis and the Syrians have already reached agreement on a formula ensuring the future of the Golan Heights, but that the two sides are trying to ensure the success of their plan. Saleh Qalab said that Yitzhak Rabin is afraid of a confrontation with the opposition in Israel and fears that any solution with the Syrians would be interpreted by the Likud Party as another concession to the Arabs, following the deal with the Palestinians. Therefore, the Israeli premier is taking time to allow the Israelis to swallow up the Israeli-PLO deal first, before embarking on another step towards Syria, as he is keen on remaining in power and afraid any miscalculation that could topple his government, said the writer. For their part, the Syrians are afraid that the Israelis might change their mind and go ahead with peace plans along other tracks, leaving Syria behind and isolated, he said. The Syrians are counting on the Americans to mediate and to speed up the implementation of the Israeli-Syrian deal before it is too late, continued the writer. The Americans are trying to narrow the gap and, assisted by Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian President, they are trying to ally Syria's fears about possible isolation and pressure, the Israelis into shortening the time needed to have their own home in order, the writer added. He said that the other Arab parties to the peace process should reassure Syria that it would not be left out in the dark and that the time factor would not adversely affect the deals already concluded between them and the Israelis.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour accused certain Arab countries, without naming them, of working together with western nations to destroy the fledgling unity of Yemen. Mohammad Kawash said that the north and the south Yemen succeeded in creating the only unity in the Arab World and have been on the way towards enhancing this unity when hostile forces intervened to upset the situation. Through conspiracies and intrigues certain hostile forces are trying to spread rumours about disputes among the Yemeni leaders, hoping to destroy the Yemeni people's aspirations for security, stability and unity, the writer said. These forces are trying by all possible means to lay obstacles in the path of the unity and are causing trouble for the leaders of the two sectors of Yemen.

## From politics of blame to policies of opportunity

By Izzat R. Dajani

Jordan is busy nowadays preparing itself for the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections. Jordanians are approaching this through different paths and motives. Some are simply apathetic. Others put state interest before self. Tribal allegiances are important to some whilst political principles and beliefs dominate the attitudes of others. However, one dominant factor is almost always shared by different groups: the politics of blame.

Previous governments are accused by many of being rather inefficient, bureaucratic, insensitive and non-productive due to archaically structured institutions. The last Parliament is considered by some to be non-representative, incoherent, weak politically and poor functionally. Many street banners and candidates' slogans coopt the politics of blame in a rhetoric frenzy. There are real grounds to this but the pledged notions for the alternative remain flimsily drawn by most candidates.

Slogans are used by them as substitutes for policy or masks for lack of it.

To long-established democracies, elections are just the beginning of the democratic process. Elections are very often followed by changes in institutions, leading to instilling a different culture in government with the superseding effect of changed philosophy and approach to management of state affairs. Such institutions remain free and open, allowing the smooth transformation to serve the common good of the people, who are themselves the very fabric of the state.

To young democracies such as ours, elections are very often the end to the process. They are the means to the political cul-de-sac. Political programmes do not often materialise as they are invariably inadequate or poor. Political "homework" succumbs to family influences, tribal obligations or meager preparations. No party political lines are yet fully established. This morass is further by parliamentarianism mired through ministerial

appointments or cooption into traditional ideologies.

Democracy should not be confused with elections. Elected legislators must use their skills and popular support to force change that would lead to institutional development, improve functioning of government and strengthen the state. It is the duty of the legislature to make sure that able people are not shoved aside but are rather encouraged to be part of Jordan's democratic fabric that seeks improvement of the system. It is time to give merit a chance and it can no longer be based on "old-boy" networks and obsolete formulas. Merit must be based on excellence. It is time that appointments in the public sector be offered to the most competent, irrespective of gender, religion, roots and origins.

Jordan has invested vast financial resources to educate its people, send them to schools and help them attain academic achievements. These people formed the pool that was responsible for servicing much of the infrastructure in

many parts of the Arab World. They cannot be told to stay out of the decision-making process just because they do not fit a certain privileged criteria. A nation cannot maintain its position if it does not strive for excellence. Jordan must make full use of the talents of all its people to service the country's public and private sectors.

It is interesting to note in this context that the gap between the executive branch and the people is narrowed by parliaments functioning in a democratic setup. Parliaments are intended to bring the leadership closer to the sentiments and aspirations of the people and are not intended to rubber stamp government policies.

The fundamental paradigm remains that the legislature's elected body must have loyalties to the state, its institutions and the system of governance. Otherwise, such a body is rendered futile and flimsy. If loyalties of the legislature does not relate to the real needs of the people, then the quality of its judgment may be appealing, but certainly not useful.

Parliament and government should not supply illusions but come up with solutions. They need to adopt pragmatic policies, challenge alternatives and elevate the possible above the ideal. Entrepreneurship in government means having to declare obsolete products that are no longer relevant to a changing, modern society; government products are its rules, regulations, practices and methods of operation. Important facts should not be ignored or omitted. People must not be denied the understanding they need in order to pass judgements.

In party politics and under party rule, the party dominating over a majority in Parliament runs the government. Unless this is established and systematised, there will be a dichotomy in responsibility for an elected legislature assuming a cabinet post. The honour of the legislature lies in a mystical but exclusive personal responsibility for what he does. However, the honour of the cabinet member is vested in his ability to fully execute the poli-

cies of the government and the orders of the superior authority as if they all agree with his own personal convictions. This is exactly where parliamentarians in Jordan seem to fail once they are appointed to cabinet. The codes of commitment and responsibility can very often assume divergent roles, leading to abandonment one to the benefit of the other. More often than not, cabinet accountability takes precedence over legislative responsibility.

There are those who say our democratic process is new and we must give it more time. Well, that is just an excuse not to act swiftly and confidently. If there is no change, the future will pass our democratic setup and render it "history." We must always look ahead as there is great need to progress fast. We ought to substitute the politics of blame with policies of opportunity. Pragmatism based on tradition should light our path. Both government and Parliament need to remember that good intentions do not always make good policies.

## 'PLO-Israel agreement is no alternative to the Palestinian cause'

Following is an open letter from Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's former representative at the U.N., to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, urging him not to relocate to Gaza and Jericho when Israeli troops withdraw from these areas. The letter is reprinted from the London-based Al Hayat Arabic daily.

I am writing you in your capacity as president of the state of Palestine to urge you not to go to Jericho and Gaza when local authority is transferred to representatives of the Palestinian state, because Gaza-Jericho will not be a liberated area and the Palestinian authorities there will not exercise national sovereignty but will have local administrative powers only. Although the daily nightmare of occupation will recede, the occupation will not end under the terms of the Gaza-Jericho accord.

Your refusal to go to Gaza-Jericho will establish the local authority as an interim body and emphasise the fact that the interim period will lead to a national authority over liberated soil. Your refusal to go there would thus confirm the view of those who believe that the agreement is a prelude to the exercise of the right of self-determination by the Palestinian people, a first step towards the independent state of Palestine. It would serve as a driving force pushing that energies and accelerates steps towards national sovereignty.

The local authority to be established under the terms of the Sept. 13 agreement, along with all the institutions it creates, would then draw their authority from the PLO. But if you go to Gaza-Jericho under the terms of this agreement, this could imply — I believe it would imply — that an occupied state has accepted the idea that its national soil is disputed territory, not the soil of an occupied state.

We know how much it would mean to you to be on Palestinian soil and among the Palestinian people for whose



liberty, dignity and sovereignty you have fought so long. But your leadership position and legal status dictate that you stay out of unliberated land.

Israel does not acknowledge that it is an occupying power in a Palestinian state. This means that its "withdrawal" from Gaza-Jericho under the terms of the agreement is not a legal withdrawal consistent with the Fourth Geneva Convention but a mere redeployment that can be reversed should "security" considerations demand.

By staying out of Gaza-Jericho, you will be sending a clear signal that you will read only on liberated land, thus confirming what the international community has recognised: that the Palestinian territories are not occupied territories, that Israel's attempts to turn them into disputed territories are not part of the agreement and that the interim agreement does not strip the territories of their status as the occupied territories of the Palestinian state proclaimed on Nov. 15, 1988. In other words, the agreement between the PLO, as the representative of the Palestinian people, and

Israel, as far as the Palestinians are concerned, a transition to the implementation of the U.N. resolutions, not an alternative to them.

Your refusal to go to Gaza-Jericho would give the Palestinian negotiators at all levels increased leverage in their efforts to extract an Israeli admission that the Jewish state is an occupying power, thereby preventing Israel from using that argument to avoid implementing the U.N. resolutions relating to Palestinian rights. This would draw the contours of the next stage as of now, making it clear that the final-status negotiations are meant not to explore Palestinian national rights but to crystallise and consolidate them as inalienable.

The local Palestinian authorities should be regarded as temporary mechanisms in the service of the liberation process, in charge of managing people's daily affairs as a prelude to the rise of a national authority.

Israel is trying to exaggerate the significance of this agreement, presenting it as a final peace treaty in order to use it as a Trojan horse that can take it into horizons that have been closed to it because of its constant violation of international laws and conventions.

Israel and the U.S. are trying to give the international community the impression that the handshake was the reconciliation, but the fact is that the Gaza-Jericho accord, while it is an inescapable reality, is a limited, temporary

formula arrived at under duress, not out of conviction; and the interim period is not a test of the Palestinians' abilities but of Israel's readiness of abide by the dictates of international legitimacy.

By refusing to go to Gaza-Jericho, you give the agreement its actual size and prevent Israel from using it to write a Middle East map that serve its well-known future objectives.

I stress the need to present the agreement in its actual size because media exaggeration has blown it out of all proportions and thereby made it look like a sick agreement. Knowing the limits of the agreement makes it a sound springboard to an interim stage in which the PLO and the international community can extract the final stage from the ambiguity in which it is now lost.

Also, making the limits of the agreement known can be the key to Palestinian national unity, while continued exaggeration of its significance nurtures disputes that can ensnare the agreement itself in the Israeli interpretation of it while at the same time allowing Israel to use the agreement to release itself of any commitment to implementing U.N. resolutions on Arab rights in general and Palestinian rights in particular.

By refusing to go to Gaza-Jericho, you send a signal that you are not content with the provisions of this agreement. This will spare the Palestinians the prospect of needless disputes between opponents and proponents of the agreement. Beguile support of the agreement gives the impression that its success is inevitable, and opposition of the agreement gives either the impression that its failure is inevitable or the impression that it must be thwarted. The dispute is thus built on both sides' exaggerated assessment of the agreement, which should be seen as an agreement limited to the local administrative dimension that does not go

into the political issue of sovereignty.

By signing the agreement, you gained recognition of the Palestinian people and of the PLO as their legitimate representatives. The preservation of these gains now hinges on a clear definition of the scope of the agreement — the fact that it does not negate the right to resist occupation, or to continue to prepare for the final stage, in which the Arabs and the U.N. must be actively engaged in order to keep the Palestinian cause in international spotlight and make sure that the outcome is consistent with the Arab national interest and international legitimacy.

It may be argued that your going to Gaza-Jericho would bolster support for the agreement and spur efforts to make it a success. That is true, considering the respect, appreciation and love that you command. However, the object here is not to increase support for the agreement. Far more important than that is the need for the agreement, with its limited, interim nature, to prevent the Palestinian leadership from relocating to territories that remain under occupation; and the need to keep the agreement from inhibiting the Palestinian technological, administrative and services talents, which have been waiting so long to prove themselves and which need political accord among the various Palestinian political factions to do so.

By staying out of Gaza-Jericho, the Palestinian political leadership can delegate administrative power to the local authorities, provide them with political discipline, launch a dialogue with the various Palestinian leaders and resume coordination with the other Arab parties concerned, especially Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, striving to remobilise the Arab power that has fallen prey to exhaustion and disaffection.

For the agreement is not an alternative to the Palestinian cause.

## Democrat asks Christopher to resign

By Frank McCloskey

WASHINGTON — As a loyal Democrat and supporter of President Clinton, I believe, with regret, that Secretary of State Warren Christopher should resign. He has severely damaged the national interest through failed leadership in difficult situations that have required a firm hand. These crises, in the former Yugoslavia, Somalia, Russia and Haiti, are likely to worsen because of the administration's flawed policies.

Our Bosnia policy has been an utter failure. Mr. Christopher has vacillated and obfuscated the issue of Serbian aggression. In early February, he defined our strong strategic interests in the region and stated that our response to the war would serve as a test case of how we handled ethnic and minority concerns throughout the world. By June, he was saying we had no vital interests at stake and that our primary goal was to stop the killing.

The State Department has pressured the Bosnian parliament to accept a partition agreement that would ratify Serbian aggression, dismember Bosnia and lead to officially

sanctioned "ethnic cleansing" and more fighting. Mr. Christopher steadfastly refused to describe Serbian atrocities in Bosnia as genocide. Why?

More than 200,000 Bosnians have been killed and half of the rest have been driven into exile. More than 380,000 people are in the 18th month of the Sarajevo siege, but Mr. Christopher will not describe this situation as terrorism.

As for Somalia, America has no clear idea what Mr. Christopher believes our interests are and how he believes we should achieve our objectives. I still have no idea why he signed on to Secretary General Boutros Ghali's plans to capture Gen. Mohammad Farah Aideded and to construct democratic institutions in Somalia out of thin air. In a remarkable reversal prompted by public and congressional pressure, the administration has embraced the Bush policy towards Somalia: We will withdraw our forces and turn nation-building over to the U.N. why did 18 Americans have to die?

In Russia, the administration identifies Boris Yeltsin as the embodiment of democratic reform and is investing all of its faith and aid to Russia in his

survival. Given his erratic behaviour and his crackdown on his opponents and the press, I gravely doubt that he is a true democrat.

More important, we are encouraging violent ultra-nationalists and secessionists throughout the former Soviet Union, by failing to address Serbian aggression in the Balkans.

In Haiti, we allowed peacekeepers to be turned back by a theatrical display by a few hundred thugs. Mr. Christopher has defined the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide as a strategic objective. But as his elastic views of America's interest show, the use of "strategic" can really only refer to President Clinton's short-term domestic political interests.

So while it may have been fair in February for the administration to suggest that it inherited the crisis in Bosnia, repeating this claim now and adding Somalia and Haiti suggest an expedient denial of responsibility.

Our allies do not see Mr. Christopher as effective internationally or as an adequate protector of U.S. interests. Largely because of his tacit

acceptance of Serbian genocide, they do not see him as a spokesman for American values. And this lack of respect can be seen in our own Congress — on both sides of the aisle.

In a recent editorial, The Economist called Mr. Christopher "the weakest link in Mr. Clinton's trio of foreign policy advisers," and added: "It is not too late to bring in a genuine enthusiast for foreign policy and one who understands, in the most hard-headed way, how the world works. The ideal candidate would be prepared to work out and articulate, not occasionally but regularly and forcefully, how America's principles apply to a given problem, where its interests in the matter lie, and how far it will go to defend them."

Mr. Warren Christopher has distinguished himself in other spheres. But if he continues on his present course, he will do further damage to our security and national interests.

Frank McCloskey, Democrat of Indiana, is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. This article is reprinted from The New York Times.

## LETTERS

### Chauvinism not for us

To the Editor:

In a TV report aired over the weekend, the Cable News Network (CNN) correspondent in Amman, tackled in a rather "novel" way, the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, especially in the aftermath of the signing of the PLO-Israeli deal; he brought together Drs. Fehed Faneh and Labeeb Kamhawi to give two diametrically opposite views on that relationship.

I was particularly taken aback, to say the least, by the comments made by Dr. Kamhawi, who made light of the Jordanian identity by asking "who is a Jordanian anyway?" and denying the foremost Jordanian his Jordanianism.

What does Dr. Kamhawi mean by that statement? Is he kidding himself, us or what?

The Jordanians, for his information, are those people who appointed him to the Royal Commission of the National Charter, and Jordan is the country that took him in, gave him citizenship and rights and allowed him to prosper, economically and financially, into what he is now.

A man like him, no matter where his roots lie, cannot ignore the Jordanian identity and generosity. This country has existed, in one form or another, throughout recorded history. Don't ingrate like Dr. Kamhawi know what the word belonging means? If he does not, let me say this to him: Jordan should not permit opportunities and chauvinists to deny its and its people's existence and identity.

I believe he owes us, both Jordanians and Palestinians, a public apology for what nonsense he had to say. All Jordanians of Palestinian origin, who I know, certainly reject chauvinist views like his.

Rima Sheer,  
P.O. Box 5613,  
Amman.



Snippets and tidbits from

## Friendly and not so amicable candidates; big promises and mots in election campaigns

A PROMINENT Jordanian politician and Irbid candidate, Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, has been active on the campaign trail. He has been visiting everyone he could in his election district. Almost guaranteed a place among the winners in that constituency, he apparently still feels that he somehow has not done enough. In yesterday's local papers Mr. Rawabdeh placed an ad apologising to the people he was unable to visit. "I was keen on visiting

every diwan (tribal headquarters) and home and I have tried really hard to do that, but time has caught up with me and I have been unable to visit all my relatives and friends. I hope you will accept my apologies." Maybe he will visit them "after" he is elected, some election pundits from Irbid said. Or he will be too busy managing another ministerial post? Mrs. Rawabdeh, on the other hand, was reported making "warm" social

calls in Irbid by offering heaters and blankets as a means to woo voters to cast their ballot in favour of her husband "Abu Issam." Good luck to both of them, in this campaign and elsewhere.

NOTORIOUS FOR his quick wit and jokes, Mr. Rawabdeh almost got himself in a fight on another front. As he was leaving a meeting in Irbid, he met a former minister of health who is also a powerful Irbid candidate. True to form, Mr. Rawab-

deh cracked a one-liner. "Here comes the midwife," he said. Naturally the relatives of the former minister, who is a gynecologist by profession, got upset. Had it not been for the intervention of some third party well wishers there would have definitely been a fight, the story goes.

"WE ARE not for sale" read a leaflet signed by the residents of the Azmi Al Mufti refugee camp on the outskirts of Irbid, attacking some candidates for

their attempts to buy votes.

ANOTHER CANDIDATE running for elections in Irbid promises his voters a step-by-step return to Islamic life. On the foreign policy level, Sheikh Nasser Tahat said in a newspaper ad yesterday that he will accept "comprehensive and just peace which will bring back our land, and our Holy Places, with Jerusalem as its capital." Does it sound like he is endorsing the Gaza-

Jericho agreement? Apparently he is not, as he further adds: "We will accept an independent Palestinian state armed with state-of-the-art weaponry, starting with rifles and ending with cross-Atlantic missiles. Besides, I want to dismantle all the settlements and bring back all the refugees to the lands they left before 1948 and share authority with the Jews on equal footing." Peace mongering or merely language obfuscation? Irbid

## Elections '93

voters do not simply know.

A REPORT on the election situation in Karak which was published in one of the local Arabic dailies can only be called a joke. The writer says that votes in the district of Karak cannot be bought because there is "a state of awareness which the citizens of this district en-

joy." The writer then continues: "To prove this, and to show their commitment to their chosen candidates, most of the Karakis will vote publicly (calling the name out loud)." This is exactly the condition which candidates who "buy" votes place on the voters to ensure that their money is well earned.

Suhair Obeidat

## Settlers

(Continued from page 1)

a statement said. About 24 settlers read the Torah in tents set up on the farm where Mizrahi was found dead and vowed to establish a new settlement there.

"The army has tied our hands until now saying they will protect us. But they can't. We have weapons. We won't accept this accord quietly," said Zeen Libeskend, a settler leader.

The initial settler protests to the peace treaty fizzled out after they failed to attract much interest among most Israelis, who generally support the peace plan, but the killing galvanised them again.

Israeli Tourism Minister Uzi

## Peres

(Continued from page 1)

buy shares. Shlomo Ben-Ami, who heads the new project by Kofr, said Western states could not be counted on to meet the region's economic needs while so many other countries sought their aid.

"The Middle East will not be saved by foreign governments," Mr. Ben-Ami told the conference. "Local business, seeking profit, has to be the basis, in a setting of regional cooperation."

Some 3,000 businessmen — Palestinians, Israelis and others — attended the conference, where they discussed ways to reap a peace dividend from the new situation in the region.

## Hostages rescued

(Continued from page 1)

left home for work on Oct. 24. In Paris the French Foreign ministry thanked the Algerian authorities for rescuing Mr. Thevenot and Mr. Freyssier, adding they were "safe and sound."

"The search for Mrs. Thevenot is still under way. In current circumstances, no further comments will be made," it added.

According to rumours here, Michele Thevenot was separated from the men shortly after their abduction.

While no organisation ever claimed to have kidnapped the three, it was widely suspected to have been the work of Islamic fundamentalists.

Well-informed sources reported that at least seven of the kidnappers were killed in a combined army and police operation.

There were no reports of casualties among the security forces. Other details were not disclosed.

The announcement of the rescue came less than two hours after a statement was released by a group claiming the kidnapping, promising to free the captives Monday.

It was unknown whether the captives were in fact freed from the so-called Islamic Armed Group. The tract promising the release was left overnight in the mailbox of the Associated Press bureau.

It did not report the captives' health or indicate that they might be held separately. Despite the promise to free them, the tract noted that the 1994 revolt began with the killing of two French colon-

els. The liberation of Mr. Thevenot and Mr. Freyssier capped a week of intensive manoeuvres since the two were abducted Oct. 24 from their home in coastal Algeria. An Algerian police guard died in a shooting. A fourth Frenchman

Haram joined in the criticism of the settlers on Sunday, saying there were "dangerous signs of a revolt."

"They want to torpedo the peace process," he added.

The local authorities in Al Bireh, near the Beth El settlement, said six cars were burnt

and 12 other damaged Sunday, and stones were thrown at 20 Palestinian houses in Al Bireh, Ramallah and Bir Zeit.

Housing Minister Benjamin Ben Eliezer said the settlers were "provoking the government with all the means at their disposal," and the gov-

ernment "will not let them get away with it."

The army sent reinforcements Sunday to the West Bank, where more than 115,000 settlers live.

Israeli Television said the army detained several Palestinians after the abduction.

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**ABU DHABI (AFP)** — Arab countries are losing billions of dollars annually in shipping fees due to their reliance on foreign fleets, a report published in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has said.

The 22 members of the Arab League carry out nearly 35 per cent of total world maritime trade, but they ship only five per cent of their own goods, the rest being transported by foreign vessels, the study by the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry said.

"Foreign fleets are transporting nearly 95 per cent of Arab trade and Arab countries are paying around \$18 billion in shipping fees annually. This is a waste of Arab money and a big loss to Arab economies," the report said.

Arabs made up no more than 25 per cent of the total number of seamen employed by Arab fleets, and around \$500,000 was being paid annually in wages to foreigners, the study said.

Most Arab trade goes by sea, the bulk of it oil and gas exports and imports of agricultural and industrial products.

The Sharjah study said economic and geopolitical factors should prompt Arab states to develop their own fleet.

Arab countries were major exporters of strategic commodities such as oil, the report noted, but "the Arab merchant fleet has been passing through a stage of weakness and regression at a time when shipping will remain the main means of transport."

Arab imports are worth more than \$100 billion a year, including nearly \$25 billion worth of foodstuffs, although the Arab region has a huge farming potential.

According to official figures, Arab states imported 31.5 million tonnes of cereals in 1991 and 22 million tonnes of wheat.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states account for nearly half of Arab trade, with their oil, gas and petrochemical exports worth more than \$60 billion a year.

The six GCC members — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and the UAE — have considered expanding their shipping services and setting up a joint fleet to transport their exports. But the project was held up by the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war and the Iraq invasion of Kuwait.

GCC countries excluding Oman have a joint shipping venture — the United Arab Shipping Company — but its fleet of around 40 vessels does not transport oil and its cargo does not exceed two million tonnes a year.

**European Parliament wants**

**ABU DHABI (AFP)**—Several companies in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are selling counterfeit copies of video tapes and other Sony products, threatening the Japanese firm, a Sony executive was quoted as saying.

Although the oil-rich Gulf state introduced trade and copyright protection laws this year after U.S. pressure, around nine companies are engaged in the piracy, said Patric Hurley, vice president of Sony Music, Asia.

"Pirated videos, compact discs and music cassettes are becoming a real menace in the UAE," he told the semi official daily Emirates News.

"Those companies are pirates," he added without identifying them. "They lack moral and ethical values. They are fooling the consumers with pirated and counterfeit copies of their versions."

Mr. Hurley who is touring key consumer countries to warn against piracy, said the UAE emirate of Dubai, a major regional transshipment centre, had become a major market for those illegal products.

"From here, they are forwarded to Saudi Arabia and other markets. So it is very important to curtail these activities here first and the rest would follow," Mr. Hurley, based in Singapore, said during a visit to Dubai.

He said Sony original copies remained far superior in quality but admitted it was difficult for most people to detect the counterfeit versions.

The European Community (EC) has agreed to cancel Algeria's public debt of more than \$6.5 billion to promote economic growth.

The parliament, which has a largely advisory role, called in a resolution for "strengthened cooperation" and said it "recommends the cancellation of Algeria's public debt to the Community."

The country is burdened by foreign debt of some \$26 billion which annually takes some 75 per cent of the hard currency earned from oil and gas exports.

Algeria, which has introduced a liberal investment code and changed laws to encourage foreign and national investors, is committed to introducing a liberal economy after nearly 30 years of centralised economic management.

**BRUSSELS (R)** — The European Parliament has urged the European Community (EC) to cancel Algeria's public debt of more than \$6.5 billion, promising economic growth, "stabilisation, which has largely advisory role" called in a resolution for "strengthened cooperation" and said it "recommends the cancellation of Algeria's public debt to the Community."

The country is burdened by foreign debt of some \$26 billion which annually takes some 75 per cent of the hard currency earned from oil and gas exports.

Algeria, which has introduced a liberal investment code and changed laws to encourage foreign and national investors, is committed to introducing a liberal economy after nearly 30 years of centralised economic management.

Barre Currency Lament Expenses				
Currency	22.10.1993		29.10.1993	
	1 Month (%)	1 Year (%)	1 Month (%)	1 Year (%)
U.S. Dollar	2.03	3.50	3.00	3.50
Swiss Franc	5.75	3.24	5.51	5.37
Deutsche Mark	6.42	5.62	6.45	5.75
Great Britain	4.33	7.53	4.37	4.20
French Franc	6.62	6.72	6.82	5.55
Japanese Yen	5.43	5.51	5.40	5.77

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## JORDAN MARKET PLACE



## Shevardnadze goes to front to 'finish with' Gamsakhurdia

ABASHA, Georgia (AFP) — Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze has arrived here to take personal command of his troops and visit the battlefield after they lost two key western towns to rebels.

Mr. Shevardnadze, planning to see the troops Sunday, said overnight that it was absolutely necessary to "finish once and for all with" former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia.

Georgian forces abandoned the towns of Khobi and Senaki after a counter-offensive by Gamsakhurdia loyalists, reportedly helped by the arrival of reinforcements from Abkhazia with weapons and heavy equipment, and it is against them that we are fighting now.

"Our men are tired. After a year of Abkhazia, defeat and now this war against other Georgians... it is normal that they should be weary. But I believe at the same time that they understand that it is absolutely necessary for Georgia to finish with this once and for

all," Mr. Shevardnadze said. Shevardnadze has set up his headquarters in Abasba, the last town before the battlefield, which is now at the outskirts of Senaki.

He held lengthy talks Saturday with his military chiefs of staff and was due to visit the front Sunday to boost the morale of the Georgian government troops.

In an interview with AFP, Mr. Shevardnadze said the intervention of fighters from the north Caucasus "changes everything, and that is why I have come. They have sent several hundred soldiers from Abkhazia with weapons and heavy equipment, and it is against them that we are fighting now."

The Georgian chief added: "If it had remained a local conflict and we were only fighting the Gamsakhurdia forces, we would be able to finish with these criminals. But outside intervention makes everything different."

According to a confidential document shown to AFP by a Shevardnadze aide, the leaders of the "Federation of the Peoples of the North Caucasus" had decided to help the ousted Gamsakhurdia to maintain their own influence in western Georgia.

"If Shevardnadze wins, we shall have no more access to the sea (the Black Sea). We must therefore help Gamsakhurdia, who is our ally," the document stated.

It was impossible here to authenticate the document, which dealt with a meeting of federation leaders last Wednesday and Thursday in Grozny, capital of Chechnya, where Mr. Gamsakhurdia spent his exile.

The document spoke of sending between 700 and 900 men into western Georgia in the ensuing few days.

Mr. Shevardnadze said his troops had no outside help. The Russian army was guarding the railway lines from the

Black Sea to eastern Georgia, but "are taking absolutely no part in the fighting," he said.

Russian sources said late Saturday that their troops stationed at the railway at the entrance to Senaki had come under Zviadist fire, but it was unclear if they were specifically targeted or had been caught up in the Grad missile barrage against government troops nearby.

Military officers were officially talking optimistically about taking Zugdidi in coming days, but there was also clear concern at staff headquarters about the extreme tiredness of the troops.

Many are volunteers who could at any moment simply clear out and go home.

A general of the regular army confided: "We are positioned there outside Senaki on a plain without any protection, and they showered Grad missiles on us all day Saturday. If we do not move forward soon, I am afraid my soldiers will not hold out much longer."



Georgian government soldiers run for cover during fighting near the town of Senaki, in the western part of the country (AFP photo)

## Director Federico Fellini dies

ROME (R) — Film director Federico Fellini, an icon of the international cinema whose 1960 classic *La Dolce Vita* defined an era in his native Italy, died Sunday after two weeks in a coma, his doctor said.

The 73-year-old Fellini died at Rome's Umberto I Hospital at "around noon" (1100 GMT), his personal physician Gianfranco Turbetti told Reuters by telephone.

Maurizio Bui, head of the intensive care unit at the hospital, said Fellini had died of cardiac arrest.

Fellini's condition had worsened earlier Sunday. His doctors said he had developed a high fever and kidney problems.

Fellini, a five-time Oscar winner whose career was synonymous with the flowering of Italy's post-war cinema history, went into a deep coma after he suffered heart failure during his convalescence from a stroke in August.

All hopes for a miracle recovery were dashed when his brain stopped functioning on Oct. 28 and infection set in. Tributes had been pouring in for weeks.

*La Dolce Vita*, with its enduring image of buxom actress Anita Ekberg frolicking fully-clothed in Rome's Trevi Fountain, came after he had already won international acclaim and sealed his reputation.

His portrayal of a decadent jet-set idling their lives away around the Via Veneto created a stereotype abroad of Italy in the late 1950s as a stylish and carefree country and founded the legend of the paparazzo photographer.

Handsomeness star Marcello Mastroianni went on to become one of the world's best-known actors despite his failure ever to master English.

"My destiny as an actor changed radically because of him," Mastroianni said in October.

"I became international — well-known in the world — and I recognise this," he added, "but his friendship was even more important to me. He has been like a big brother to me."

German director Wim Wenders was another to offer tribute during Fellini's last days. "He is one of the greats of world cinema," he said. "A part of my childhood is called Fellini — it is that part of childhood which every adult keeps in his heart."

Fellow Italian director Franco Zeffirelli added: "Italy just does not produce giants like Fellini any more."

Fellini was born in the Adriatic coastal resort of Rimini on Jan. 20, 1920 and made his name with "I Vitelloni" (The Loafers), a 1953 study of a group of amiable layabouts.

## Mediator pull-out deals blow to Kashmir talks

SRINAGAR, India (Agencies) — The withdrawal of Muslim mediators appeared Sunday to have dealt a fresh blow to talks on ending an army siege at Kashmir's holiest mosque.

The involvement since Thursday of the three mediators, leaders of Kashmir's umbrella all-party Hurriyat (Freedom) Conference, had raised hopes that the tense 16-day standoff at Srinagar's Hazratbal Shrine was heading to a swift close.

But on Saturday night they said they were pulling out of the talks, accusing the Indian government of insincerity.

"The government is not serious about finding a solution to the crisis," Hurriyat spokesman Abdul Ghani told reporters.

"The government was not prepared to offer us any concessions. We had to be imaginative as well as pragmatic — the government refused to be either."

Hopes had run high earlier Saturday that the mediators might find a formula to end the siege at the shrine, where up to 50 armed militants and scores of civilians have been surrounded by troops since midnight on Oct. 15.

The Indian government, battling a four-year-old Muslim uprising in the mountains of the northern state, said it was forced to surround the shrine to foil an alleged plot by militants to steal the Hazratbal relic.

The operation has dragged into a protracted siege, providing an extra focus for anti-Indian protest in Kashmir, the only Muslim majority state in the mainly Hindu country. At least 47 people were killed on Oct. 22 in clashes between demonstrators and security forces.

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The diplomats, reached by telephone from neighbouring Rwanda, said Prime Minister Sylvie Kinigi had told Mr. Salim they feared they would be killed like Mr. Ndayaye, who was shot a few hours after the Oct. 21 coup.

Communications Minister Jean Marie Ngedahayo, the spokesman for the group, said

A senior official in New Delhi said the separatists toughened their stand after local newspapers quoted off-the-record remarks by a U.S. State Department official saying Kashmir was a disputed area.

The official said the U.S. remarks boosted the militants' morale.

India has reasserted its rights over Kashmir amid outrage over the United States questioning the validity of the state's 1947 accession in a perceived policy shift.

"We do not recognise anyone's right to question the status of Kashmir as an integral part of India," Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh said late Saturday as all political parties denounced Washington in a rare show of unanimity.

"India will not brook any outside interference from any quarter on Kashmir," Mr. Dinesh Singh said in a statement. "Kashmir is, and shall remain an integral part of India."

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the whole of Kashmir, held in part by India and Pakistan, was a disputed territory whose status needed to be resolved.

Mr. Dinesh Singh noted the United States had expressed its view at a time when India was struggling to end a prolonged standoff at the Hazratbal Shrine.

"We are surprised at the timing of the American pronouncements — they came just as it appeared the armed terrorists inside the shrine were about to release the civilian hostages held by them," the foreign minister said, adding "these signals could encourage continued confrontation."

## Burundi leaderless as tribal death toll mounts

KIGALI, Rwanda (R) — Tribal violence swept Burundi as members of a civilian government who survived a collapsed military coup refused Sunday to leave the shelter of the French embassy.

Pleas from high officials, including Salim Ahmad Salim, secretary general of the Organisation of African Unity, failed to convince the civilian rulers to leave the embassy, where they fled 10 days ago when soldiers killed President Melchior Ndayaye and six other ministers, diplomats said.

The diplomats, reached by telephone from neighbouring Rwanda, said Prime Minister Sylvie Kinigi had told Mr. Salim they feared they would be killed like Mr. Ndayaye, who was shot a few hours after the Oct. 21 coup.

Communications Minister Jean Marie Ngedahayo, the spokesman for the group, said

in an interview on French radio: "The members of the government are staying in the French embassy because their lives are threatened. If ever we were to step out we would get killed — it's as simple as that."

Burundi Radio quoted Mr. Salim as saying Ms. Kinigi wanted foreign troops to be sent in to protect her and other survivors of the coup, despite assurances of loyalty by her army leaders.

"According to the secretary-general, foreign troops will have to come in sooner or later to protect the government and other institutions," the radio said.

But diplomats said the United Nations was unable to supply such a military force and the OAU had no troops available — although some African states were offering assistance in response to appeals from Burundi leaders.

Community, which is overhauled to take on some new responsibilities while giving the European Parliament modest extra powers in some areas of legislation.

Most important, that section of the treaty contains all the provisions for economic and monetary union, with a timetable leading to a single currency no later than 1999.

The section on common foreign and security policy sets out rules for agreeing joint actions of the 12 members. The summit identified the Middle East, former Yugoslavia, South Africa and a stability plan for Europe as the first priority areas.

The third pillar aims to encourage closer cooperation in justice and home affairs, such as the fight against drugs trafficking, terrorism and organised crime and the sensitive issues of asylum and immigration policy.

The first is the old European

## France attacks U.S., Japanese cinema 'monopoly'

BEAUNE, France (AFP) — French Culture Minister Jacques Toubon has accused the United States and Japan of fostering a cinematographic monopoly and pledged to wage a cultural war to safeguard the French film industry. Speaking at a cinema forum in this eastern central French town Saturday, Mr. Toubon said that a "battle" had been declared in the name of multi-culturalism and against the "Japanese-American monopoly" in the audiovisual and cinema sectors. His comments were the latest in a series of declarations of solidarity by French public figures in the face of what are seen as threats to the future country's movie industry posed by a culture clause in the ongoing GATT talks aimed at liberalising world trade. Stressing his support for excluding culture from the GATT provisions, Mr. Toubon said: "We are fighting for openness... for the freedom of creative people and audiences. We are not seeking protection. We want to keep a window open to allow various perspectives on the world. Europe needed to set up its own major film companies with EC backing, he added. The minister stressed that, without support from France, cinematographers such as Mali's Souleymane Cisse, Argentina's Fernando Solanas, and Bosnia's Emir Kusturica would have been unable to produce their films. He added: "Our battle is not only on behalf of cultural identity but also universalism. Are we prepared to admit there is only a single world of culture?"

## Man pleads guilty to strangling puppy

GARDNER, Massachusetts (AFP) — A man who allegedly strangled a poodle puppy to death after it defecated on his rug received a one-year suspended jail term, Todd Burwell, 29, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of cruelty to an animal in the 1988 incident. He was also ordered to perform 100 hours of community service. The puppy belonged to Burwell's landlord.

## Judge calls for anonymity for men on rape trial

BRIGHTON, England (AFP) — Britain's top judge has called for the names of men on trial for rape to be kept secret after a controversial case in which a student was acquitted but faced a barrage of publicity in the press. Lord Chief Justice Taylor made the plea at a law society conference in Brighton after the acquittal earlier this month of Austin Donnellan, who was found not guilty of raping a fellow student after a drunken party. Mr. Donnellan faced widespread press coverage during the trial while his accuser was not allowed to be named in the press. He complained after his acquittal that the law allowed the name of innocent men to be dragged through the mud in the press. "I think it is unfair he should be exposed to the same sort of embarrassment women were exposed to that led to anonymity being given to the complainant," Taylor said. But another top judge, Master of the Rolls Sir Thomas Bingham, said he would be unhappy with a situation where there was a "creeping veil of anonymity over court proceedings." Home Secretary Michael Howard has ordered a review of the laws on naming rape victims and the accused and is considering anonymity for both complainant and the man being prosecuted.

## Children fingerprinted after classroom heist

TOKYO (R) — A Japanese school board has rebuked a teacher who fingerprinted a class of 10-year-olds from someone stole money from her desk. The 28-year-old teacher took the fingerprints of about 30 pupils in hopes of finding out who took a bag with tens of thousands of yen (hundreds of dollars) collected for the local Parent Teacher Association, the Mainichi Daily News said. The bag was found a few days later by a child from another class, the report said. Several thousand yen were missing. When parents complained to the school, in Tochigi Prefecture north of Tokyo, the teacher apologised, saying the theft was due to her negligence. Mainichi said the local school board told her that fingerprinting children was going too far.

## Haiti rightists plan to replace Aristide

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Haiti's pro-army rightist political parties, after blocking the return of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, planned Sunday to seize state power.

Fired up having successfully defied the United Nations, political hardliners said they would make their move Sunday afternoon, calling for new elections and naming a new interim president to end all hopes of Mr. Aristide's return.

They say the authority of Mr. Aristide and his interim prime minister, Robert Malval, ended midnight Saturday, the deadline for Mr. Aristide's homecoming under the terms of a U.N.-brokered agreement signed by the exiled leader and army chief Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras on July 3.

"As of midnight, we will occupy all the streets of Haiti. If we say go, everybody will go. If we say stop, everybody will stop. We are going to impose ourselves," Reynold Georges said late Saturday.

Mr. Georges, leader of the Liberal Alliance for the Advancement of Haiti, said: "We will have a new government very soon."

Heavy gunfire was heard much of Saturday night, especially in downtown areas around the empty National Palace.

Civilian gunmen linked to the police and known as "attaches" circled the city centre in pickup trucks, firing off their powerful automatic weapons. It was not clear if they were shooting at specific targets or into the air.

The show of force followed a second day of noisy street demonstrations by hundreds of attaches celebrating the failure of the U.N. plan to restore Mr. Aristide by Oct. 30. Uniformed soldiers and police joined the celebrations.

Mr. Georges said Mr. Malval and the U.N.'s special envoy in Haiti, Dante Caputo, would be best advised not to resist the right-wingers' power grab. "We have to use all force necessary to implement our plan," he told Reuters. Both Mr. Malval and Mr. Caputo have stepped up security measures.

More than a score of small right-wing groups, many of whom revere the memory of the late dictator Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, are behind the plan to replace Mr. Aristide.

They call for invoking an article of the constitution that calls for the head of the Supreme Court to take over as interim president if the post becomes vacant.

The current Supreme Court chief justice is Emile Jonassaint, who was appointed shortly after the military coup that toppled Mr. Aristide from power and killed hundreds of people on Sept. 30, 1991.

Mr. Aristide, a 40-year-old former Roman Catholic priest, had been in office for less than eight months. He is Haiti's first ever democratically-elected leader.

It is not clear whether top military officers will back the neo-Duvalierists' attempt to seize power.

## Protestants kill 7 in N. Ireland bar

GREYSTEEL, Northern Ireland (R) — Protestant gunmen shouting "trick or treat" walked into a Northern Ireland bar and killed at least seven people in a Halloween party massacre to avenge an IRA bombing that killed 10 people.

Eleven people were injured, several seriously, late Saturday when two gunmen wearing baseball caps and masks walked into the packed Rising Sun Pub in Greysteel, 80 miles (120 km) northwest of Belfast, carrying submachine guns.

Witnesses said they approached a frightened teenage girl and made the traditional "trick or treat" greeting that children worldwide use to get sweets from their neighbours.

"I don't think that's funny," the girl replied. One of the gunmen then shot her dead, the witnesses said.

They sprayed the bar with fire. One of the pair emptied his magazine, reloaded and fired a second burst, witnesses said.

The Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF), an outlawed Protestant extremist group, claimed responsibility for the attack, which cast a shadow over new efforts to bring peace to the province.

Catholic youths went on the rampage in Londonderry, Northern Ireland's second city, in the early hours of Sunday and had to be dispersed by the police and the army.

## First signs of victory seen in California fires

LOS ANGELES (R) — Authorities prepared to send fire crews home Sunday, a sign of victory in the battle against southern California firestorms that caused at least \$500 million worth of damage.

"It's time for them to go home," said Los Angeles County Fire Chief Ray Blackburn. "They have our heartfelt thanks."

Cooler weather and lack of winds helped an army of 9,000 firefighters tame the fierce blazes that flamed for four days and nights, destroying more than 700 homes and scorching about 190,000 acres (76,390 hectares).

As people turned their clocks back one hour to standard time, firefighters were savouring at least partial victory over the 15 wildfires that had cut a swath of destruction and disaster along the coast.

Four were pronounced completely extinguished and the others were between 50 and 90

The UFF said in a statement that the attack was staged to avenge a bombing last Saturday by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland that killed nine Protestants.

The bomb, which went off prematurely, also killed a Catholic who had planted the bomb in a Belfast fish shop.

"This is the continuation of our threat against the (Irish) nationalist electorate that they would pay a heavy price for last Saturday's slaughter of nine Protestants," the UFF message said.

The shooting brought the death toll in sectarian killing since Saturday's IRA Belfast bombing to 23. Six Catholics were killed by Protestant death squads in the past week.

The seaside village of Greysteel is eight miles (13 km) from Londonderry, the site of some of the original disturbances in 1969 that touched off a cycle of violence in Northern Ireland, a British province, that has since killed more than 3,000 people.

A horrified Reverend Ian Paisley, leader of the heavily Protestant Democratic Unionist Party that wants to maintain the link with Britain, said the killings were inexcusable.

Rev. Paisley said the killers had learned their trade from the Irish Republican Army (IRA), the guerrillas trying to oust Britain from the province. Irish Foreign Minister Dick

Spring said: "The depths of sectarian hatred which are being plumbed at the moment can serve no purpose."

William Ross, the Ulster Unionist member of the British parliament in whose constituency the killing occurred, said it was time for the British government to consider a return to internment — detaining suspects without trial.

But Joe Hendron of the moderate Nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) said such a move would be counterproductive. "They'd be queuing up to join the paramilitary organisations," he said.

Residents of Greysteel said the pub was packed with Halloween revellers, including both Catholics and Protestants. At least two of the dead were Protestants.

The dead included an 82-year-old man, a 52-year-old woman and the 19-year-old woman who was the "trick or treat" offer.

Local priest Father Kevin McKenna told reporters the scene in the pub after the attack was one of "total carnage". A dazed man stood over his dead wife. Injured people lay strewn around the bar crying for help, he said.

The UFF said the shooting was aimed at derailing attempts by the Irish government "to meddle in the internal affairs of Northern Ireland."

## Actor River Phoenix dies at 23

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor River Phoenix, who emerged as a young star in *Stand By Me* and co-starred in the offbeat *My Own Private Idaho*, died Sunday after collapsing outside a nightclub. He was 23.

Companions of the actor said he was acting strangely after leaving the popular Viper Club in West Hollywood at about 1 a.m. (0500 GMT), said Sheriff's Deputy Patrick Hausler.

Phoenix was taken to Cedars Sinai Medical Centre, where he died at 1:51 a.m. (0551 GMT), Mr. Hausler said. Authorities refused to elaborate on Phoenix's behaviour before his collapse, saying an autopsy would determine a cause of death.

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## Few celebrations as bloodied Maastricht Treaty takes effect

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community's (EC) treaty on European union, up to now a source of bitterness and discord, takes effect Monday with leaders' vowing they have learned the lessons of a bruising two-year battle to get it ratified.

From Nov. 1, the Community will be part of a broader European union made up of the same 12 members but with the ambitious new goals of creating a single currency by the end of the century and forging common foreign and security policies.

The treaty established "European citizenship", which in practice will mean that EC citizens can vote in local and European anywhere in the bloc and can turn to any EC embassy for help abroad.

But the wave of euphoria which carried the Community along to the treaty's signing in the Dutch city of Maastricht 21

months ago has long since faded.

Economic boom has given way to recession. The much-vaunted EC single market has so far made little initial impact on individuals. Only the hangover remains from the giddy excitement of communism's collapse and of Germany's subsequent unification.

Many feel that the cost in high interest rates of absorbing what used to be East Germany has crippled the drive for monetary union before it is got under way, with the EC's currency rate grid battered out of shape by unforgiving financial markets.

The treaty has become a scapegoat for popular disaffection throughout the Community, barely surviving initial rejection by Denmark's voters, narrow squeaks in Britain's parliament and in a French referendum and a tense court challenge in Germany.

So celebrations are heavily muted.

Much of Europe, including the EC's own institutions, will be on holiday Monday, but that is to mark All Saints Day and All Souls Day which follows Tuesday. The timing prompted one critic, France's ultra-rightist Jean-Marie Le Pen, to remark:

"Nothing could better illustrate this stillborn treaty than its coming into effect on the eve of the day of the dead."

The mood at Friday's summit was certainly far from euphoric, as leaders promised to correct past mistakes and struck a note of cautious optimism about the prospects for the future.

The ratification fight had revealed weaknesses, the leaders said, in a declaration that was almost contrite.

"There are many to whom Europe seemed distant, anonymous and interfering. For that reason, we wish to introduce

greater transparency, openness and decentralisation in our procedures. We want a Europe close to the citizen and intervening only where necessary to pursue our common interests," they said.

Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene, the summit's host and chairman who saw 25,000 of his countrymen in the streets that same day to protest against his austerity plans, was particularly keen to avoid extravagant rhetoric.

"This treaty is not a miracle cure, but it can contribute to bringing about solutions to some of the problems which confront our citizens," he said.

The summit itself made little progress on those problems, but did agree that the future EC Central Bank, the European Monetary Institute, will go to Frankfurt as part of a hard-won package deal on sitting new EC institutions.

Seen as a gesture to reassure sceptical Germans that the

single EC currency will be as solid and stable as the German mark it will replace, the decision was evidence that the EC is clinging to the monetary union goal.

But action to boost economic growth and reduce unemployment — now the main preoccupations — will wait until the next summit in December while the time bomb of the GATT world trade talks was left still ticking in a corner of the communique.

The summit's attempt to find new ways to bring aid to the victims of the war in former Yugoslavia served as another reminder of the EC's policy failures there and the struggle it faces to restore its credibility as a force in world affairs.

The new treaty creating the European union, likened by critics to the ugly child of a painful birth, is a complex legal text composed of three main pillars.

The first is the old European



## Argentina, Australia play to 1-1 draw

SYDNEY, Australia (Agencies) — Diego Maradona conjured up one piece of magical artistry Sunday night as Argentina played to a 1-1 draw with Australia in a first-leg World Cup qualifying match at the Sydney Football Stadium.

Maradona marked his comeback to international soccer by creating the opening goal for striker Abel Balbo in the 37th minute.

Midfielder Aurelio Vidmar equalised for Australia in the 42nd minute of a hard-fought contest.

"When we scored I thought the game was ours, but their goal so soon to equalise really took us by surprise," said Argentine coach Alfio Basile.

The second leg match is scheduled on Nov. 17 in Buenos Aires, with the winner on aggregate advancing to the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States.

Maradona, 33, was playing for the national team for the first time since February.

The controversial playmaker, who was suspended for 15 months after failing a drug test in 1991, was sacked by Spanish club Seville in June and had played only two matches since.

Australian captain Paul Wade marked Maradona effectively and he was able to shine only on rare occasions. For much of the match, Maradona played at a walking pace.

But when he did strike, he was awesome.

Maradona created his team's goal after robbing Australian sweeper Milan Ivanovic of possession.

He whipped a pinpoint left-footed cross from the right wing and Roma spearhead Balbo soared high to head the ball past the despairing dive of Australian goalkeeper Mark Bosnich.

It was Argentina's first strike on goal in the match.

Argentina coach Alfio Basile said: "We have no fear of Australia, but we had respect for Australia before the game and after we have even more respect."

"I thought we played well tonight, but I think in Argentina we will play better."

Australian coach Eddie Thomson said: "We showed in the first half that we could match the Argentines. We created a lot of chances but we were unfortunate not to finish them off."

Thompson also had special praise for defender Paul Wade for his marking of Maradona.

"Wade did a good job marking Maradona. He kept him quiet most of the match except for that moment when Maradona set up their goal," said Thomson.

Wade, who equalled the Australian record of 64 appearances Sunday, sounded a defiant warning for the second leg.

"We showed tonight that we can play with the best. I'm not going to be so bold and say we are going to do a Colombia, but watch out."

The Argentine team was completely revamped from the one that lost 5-0 to Colombia last month — a defeat that resulted in Argentina having to face the unheralded Australians.

Fernando Redondo was mobile and powerful in midfield, while strikers Balbo and Gabriel Batistuta worked hard despite a lack of support from their playmakers.

The Argentine players were delighted and relieved with the result, embracing each other at the final whistle. Maradona, however, received a yellow card caution for dissent from Hungarian referee Sandor Puhl in the 89th minute.

Basile said he was satisfied with Maradona's limited contribution.

"I thought he played well after such a long break," Basile said. "He was clever to create the goal."

The match was delayed for seven minutes at halftime when the floodlights failed. Stadium officials said the problem had been caused by a power surge.

Australia is bidding to advance to the finals for the first time since 1974, while Argentina won in 1986 and was runner-up in 1990.

The match was watched by a stadium record crowd of 43,967.

## Chinese athletics revolution rolls on

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (AFP) — China's outstanding group of women athletes gave another demonstration of their domination of world distance running with a clean sweep of the medals at the World Marathon Cup here Sunday.

But the anticipated assault on Ingrid Kristensen's eight year old world record at the distance was doomed within the first 10km as Wang Yunxia, the world 10,000 champion and record holder, followed the slow early pace set by American Ann Boyd.

Wang finally broke away from the leading group of 10 athletes at the 30km mark when the leading men — who had started 15 minutes later — caught the group and disturbed its rhythm.

She went on to win in 2:28.16, an impressive time but nearly three minutes slower than her marathon debut in April.

Her teammates Zhang Linli, Zhang Liang and Ma Liyan followed her home in that order but world 1,500m record holder Qu Yunxia, the fifth member of coach Ma Junren's squad on display here, limped out of the race after only 7km after straining a leg injury she was carrying.

Wang said afterwards she had felt the impact of the World Championships in Stuttgart and her record-breaking exploits at the Chinese National Championships in September.

"Most of us broke existing world records at the national games and we were all very tired. We knew that so we just took it easy at the beginning and followed what the other athletes did."

She also admitted that she had been hurt by the widespread suspicion of doping that greeted her 3,000m and 10,000m records. "After all the hard work we have done, why should some people take this attitude," she said.

"If other people break our records we will be pleased for them. So why are we the Chinese accused?"

By bringing his prodigies to

this event Ma will have gone a long way to boosting the credibility of his methods and breaking down cynicism in the West.

Sceptics claim the intensity of his training — his athletes, all women, run the equivalent of a marathon a day at altitude — can only be borne with the aid of drugs.

But Ma insists traditional Chinese nutritional principles and herbal products are what enables a wait-like 20-year-old like Wang to survive and even thrive on his regime.

He said this week his runners were ready to have blood tests which can detect signs of doping the traditional urine test does not expose.

Ma's dream is to prove to the world that his system can produce an athlete capable of competing at the highest level from 1,500m through to the marathon.

Kristensen's record survived Sunday but there was nothing in Wang's performance to suggest it will not fall in the next year, possibly at the London Marathon next April.

Negotiations are already underway to bring them to London but the outcome will depend on the say-so of the Chinese Athletics Federation.

Sunday's clean sweep earned Ma's outfit nearly \$120,000 which is to be used to fund a new training centre at their

base on the Yunnan Plateau.

The extent to which the Chinese have broken down the initial scepticism about their performances was demonstrated by a glowing tribute from Britain's Richard Nerurkar, the winner of the men's race.

"They have set up an incredible training base and set new standards in training and therefore performance," the 29-year-old former teacher said.

"Those standards have revolutionised women's distance running and what we saw today was a reflection of that."

Nerurkar broke away from the leading pack four kilometres from the finish to win in a time of 2hr 10min 3sec, shaving nearly a minute from the time he registered in winning his debut Marathon in Hamburg in April.

As befits a multi-lingual graduate of Oxford and Harvard Universities, it was an astutely-judged run.

Nobody in the group of nine to 12 that had led the race most of the way was able to live with him as he opened up a 50m gap in a two-minute burst just as the route turned slightly uphill towards the finish.

Saverio Bernadini of Italy tried in vain to close the gap but had to be content with second, nine seconds back.

## Austrian storms to World Cup giant slalom win

SOELDEN, Austria (R) — Austrian Anita Wachter made a perfect start to the defence of her overall World Cup title when she stormed to a convincing victory in Sunday's opening women's giant slalom race.

The lightweight Wachter, fondly nicknamed "the flea from Montafon," left her rivals in her wake to win by 2.63 seconds on the 3,000 metre-high Rettenbach Glacier Pist, with Frenchwomen taking second and third places.

She skied the course, which had a vertical drop of 350

metres, in an overall time of two minutes 14.57 seconds.

Sophie Lefranc, in only her second World Cup season, outskied her more experienced compatriot, giant slalom world champion Carole Merle, to finish second in 2:17.20 over the two legs. Merle clocked 2:17.51.

The performance by Lefranc, 22, was all the more spectacular after she finished fourth in the first leg despite starting way back in the field at 30th.

Merle, the giant slalom World Cup champion, was faster than Lefranc in the middle of the second leg but, like many racers before her, lost time on the lower half as sun slowed down the powder-snow piste.

Wachter, second to Merle in last season's giant slalom standings, set an almost unbeatable lead of nearly 1.5 seconds over Merle in the first leg and held a perfect line down the technically demanding course to increase her overall lead.

Swiss veteran Vreni Schneider, who holds a record 20 World Cup giant slalom wins, finished fourth after a powerful second run but paid for a slow first leg.

Germany's overall World Cup runner-up Katja Seizinger clocked 2:17.98 to move up from 15th place in the first leg to sixth overall.

Austria's Sylvia Eder was unable to hold onto her third position after the first leg when she clocked a disappointing overall time of 2:18.73.

## Gullit ends Milan's record run at the top

ROME (R) — Ruud Gullit struck a fairy-tale winner against his former club Milan as Sampdoria ended the champions' record two-year run at the top of the league with a thrilling 3-2 victory Sunday.

Gullit crashed home a cross-shot 12 minutes from time to cap a memorable fightback by Sampdoria, who scored three times in the second half to overturn a 2-0 deficit.

Sampdoria and Juventus, 4-0 winners over 10-man Genoa, both leap over Milan. The top two have 15 points from 10

games, one ahead of the champions.

Milan had not been dislodged from top spot since hitting the front on Oct. 20, 1991. It was also their first away defeat in the league for almost 2½ years.

Juventus captain Roberto Baggio scored a hat-trick to complete 100 goals in Serie A, at an average of better than one every two games.

Cup Winners' Cup holders Parma are level on points with Milan and will go clear at the top if they win their tough fixture away to Internazionale.

## Shaq leads Orlando Magic to London triumph

LONDON (R) — Giant Shaquille O'Neal inspired the Orlando Magic to a comfortable 120-95 success over the Atlanta Hawks in the first ever clash between two NBA clubs in Europe.

A capacity 9,500 crowd at London's Wembley Arena warmed to the NBA-showbiz style and O'Neal, hailed as a successor to Michael Jordan, shone on the night, topscoring for Orlando with 23 points.

The Hawks got off to a flying start and led 32-13 midway through the first quarter.

But with O'Neal exerting increasing influence, Orlando went into the lead for the first time at 46-45 just before half-time and from then on were the better side.

The two teams meet again at the same venue Sunday night as part of their warmup for the NBA season, starting next week.

Their appearance in England has sparked huge public interest, rewarding the NBA's aim of spreading the U.S. basketball message.

Media from 14 countries were on hand to watch the

## Carbajal pummels Sosa, retains boxing titles

PHOENIX, Arizona (R) — American Michael Carbajal pummelled Dominican Domingo Sosa for more than four rounds to retain his World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation light flyweight titles Saturday.

Referee Bobby Ferrara stopped the fight 48 seconds into the fifth round after Sosa's manager threw in the towel.

The undefeated Carbajal, silver medalist at the 1988 Olympics, scored his 30th victory while Sosa's record fell to 28-2.

Carbajal was surprised Sosa lasted as long as he did.

"It just seemed like he fought on instinct. I was surprised he stayed up so long. He took some good punches and wouldn't go down," the champion said.

Carbajal knocked down Sosa at 1:23 in the first round with a left to the body and right to the head. It was the first time Sosa had been knocked down.

Carbajal dominated the fight despite suffering a cut above his right eye in the second round due to an accidental head butt. Carbajal, sporting a new mohawk haircut, was bleeding after the head butt.

"I wasn't worried because the cut was on top of my head," Carbajal said. "I was bleeding a lot and once in a while it would get into my eye and everything was blurry, but I would just back up and shake it out."

Carbajal said that after the cut, "I still took my time and tried to stay on top of him."

With 10 seconds remaining in the fourth round, Carbajal connected with a right to the head, stunning Sosa. However, time ran out in the round and Sosa survived — briefly.

Some felt the referee should have stopped the fight sooner but Carbajal's brother and trainer Danny said: "Bobby (Ferrara) is a good ref. He gave him every chance to fight because it was for the championship, but his corner knows him better than the ref."

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### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & YAMAM HIRSH

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH: ♠ 8 5 3 2, ♥ 10, ♦ 10 7 2, ♣ A K Q 9

EAST: ♠ A 6 4, ♥ 5, ♦ 9 8 6 5, ♣ J 10 4 3

WEST leads: King of ♥

Bridge is not a game for the faint of heart. It's a game where your opponents will steal your blind. Consider the hand from the recent Fall North American Championships in Atlanta, Fla.

After West's four heart opening bid, many players would pass with the North hand, as would South, who could scarcely be expected to

compete, and declarer would rack up 10 tricks in quick time. Mark Stabash of Murietta, Calif., is not among them. He doubled and, as a result, his partner, Ron Sukoneck of Annandale, Va., became declarer at four spades.

West led the king of hearts, on which declarer dropped the three. Unsure as to who held the deuce and reluctant to concede a possible ruff-shut, West shifted to the singleton club. Declarer won in dummy, came to hand with the king of diamonds and led a low trump. West's jack was a pleasant surprise. East allowed the king to win, rose with the ace on the spade continuation and exited with a spade.

Declarer won, cashed a high club and the ace of diamonds, then led a heart. Instead of ruffing, declarer discarded the table's diamond loser. West had to win perforce and, left with nothing but hearts, was forced to yield the ruff-shut that he feared at trick two. Declarer's club loser went away and the contract rolled home.

Note that a heart continuation at trick two drains the contract. Declarer cannot avoid a loser in each suit for down one.

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CONCORD 1P: Tom Cruise, Demi Moore in A Few Good Men

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